Wolverhampton
CHRONICLE

Thursday, April 23, 2015 | Read by more than 73,000 people | Price when sold 60p

Get rid of this trouble-plagued park, say residents

ESTATE UPSET OVER PLAY AREA

By Jordan Harris

DISGUSTED residents on a Bilston estate have called for a nuisance play area to be closed down.

Drinking, swearing, motorbike racing and racist abuse are just some reasons why residents want it removed by Wolverhampton City Council.

They have asked that the playground on the Duke Park estate goes due to persistent anti-social behaviour problems. It was built little more than a year ago.

An 85-signature petition has been handed in to Wolverhampton City Council from people living on the estate and the surrounding area. The issue will be discussed at a council meeting tomorrow.

Manjinder Bains, who can see the play area from his home, said residents didn't want it built in the first place and trouble has been persistent since it was installed. He said: "It is a nuisance, having to look out of your window at night and just seeing gangs of young kids drinking, shouting and fighting.

"It doesn't stop, no matter what time of night it is.We want it gone.

Reputation

"I have young nieces and nephews who come to visit me and they are the perfect age to be using the facility but I won't take them because it has been overtaken by teenagers. We have considered selling up over the last year but the area is getting a reputation now and we won't get the money we should for our home."

The play area was built as part of an agreement with Barratt Homes when plans for the Dukes Park housing estate were accepted by the city council.

Between January 2014 and February 2015, a total of 58 police logs have been recorded at the site, covering claims that groups of young people have vandalised the play area by spraying graffiti, breaking equipment and driving cars around the land.

The reports state that the young people have also used abusive and racist language towards the public, while reports of fighting and intimidation are also recorded. Actions to reduce the anti-social behaviour have already been taken, with Barratt Homes digging trenches and creating raised areas to prevent vehicles driving over the site and police stepping up foot patrols. A dome hawk CCTV camera has also been installed.

The petition will be discussed tomorrow, where it will be recommended that all estate households and local councillors are asked to give their preference over what happens next.

GREASE – YOU COULD BE THE ONE THEY WANT

Jessica Needham, Leah Hughes, Molly Hughes, Emma Walters and Jasmine Marriott from Stageworkz Theatre Company

A THEATRE school is hoping to find the next John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John to star in its latest production.

Stageworkz Theatre School, based in Castlecroft, Wolverhampton, is looking for talented young performers to take part in its version of classic musical Grease.

The company is holding workshop-style auditions this Sunday and again the following Sunday and are hoping the finest young musical theatre performers in the city will attend.

Jon Dempsey, who runs the company with his wife Gemma, said: "We are looking for great new talent for our next production, Grease the musical.

It is a classic musical and we know that there must be some young people in the city who have a soft spot for it.

If you haven't performed before it doesn't matter. What we are looking for is enthusiastic young entertainers who want to benefit from being part of an fast paced, lively production."

The workshop auditions will be held at the Stageworkz base at the Windmill Youth Centre on Castlecroft Avenue from 12.30-3.30pm.

Attendees should be aged between eight and 16.

Contact Jon or Gemma on 07706 890123 or email stageworkz@hotmail.co.uk

POUNDLAND

Push for more time over 99p takeover

POUNDLAND has asked the UK's competition watchdog for three weeks to decide on whether it will go ahead with its £55m takeover of 99p Stores or abandon the deal.

Poundland boss Jim McCarthysaid the company would ask for more time, adding : "We can walk away from the deal."

The Competition and Markets Authority revealed 10 days ago it had problems with the proposed takeover, saying it could affect competition in at least 80 areas where Poundland shops and branches of 99p Stores are less than a mile apart.

SMART

Backing for plan to woo city investment

WOLVERHAMPTON is one step closer to becoming a 'smart city' to attract investment after bosses approved plans.

Chiefs endorsed the adoption of an EU framework for the scheme. This involves six categories: smart governance, smart economy, smart mobility, smart environment, smart people and smart living.

The strategy aims to use technology and innovation to make the city 'a more attractive place to live, work and invest'.

EDUCATION

Nearly 89pc get first choice school

NEARLY 89 per cent of parents got their first choice of primary school in Wolverhampton.

Wolverhampton City Council said 97 per cent of parents who submitted applications for reception class places on time secured a place at one of their preferred infant or primary schools.

Almost 89pc got their first choice, an increase from 87.8 per cent last year. More than 3,330 parents applied for places on time, with 171 late applications received.

The council is to operate waiting lists over the coming months, and parents unhappy with the allocation can appeal.

ELECTION

POLITICS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

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Brazen thief targets golf club shops

Sandwell Golf CCTV

A BRAZEN thief who stole £1,500 of clothes from a golf club shop has targeted up to 10 other stores across the West Midlands.

The Penn Golf Club was targeted by the smooth-talking criminal last week.

After this was revealed up to 10 clubs came forward to say a man matching the same description had tried his luck across the West Midlands and Shropshire.

Clubs in Sandwell, Great Barr, Worfield, Wrekin, Sutton Coldfield, Telford, Aston Wood and Shirley have contacted Mark Butler from the Penn shop.

The alleged thief, said to be well spoken and in his 40s or 50s, has reportedly been joined by two other accomplices in his apparent latest raids.

As at the Penn shop, the alleged thief had a black coat draped over his arm.

Challenged

He had allegedly visited the Wrekin Golf Shop in Telford earlier that day inquiring about Galvin Green golf jackets, the same make which had been stolen from the Penn shop.

West Mercia Police spokeswoman Abbie Harpley said: "We received a call at 2pm on Wednesday on Shrewsbury Driving Range about a man acting suspiciously inside the shop area.

"A member of staff had challenged him and he had ran off into a Silver Peugeot 107. Police attended the scene but no arrests were made."

Great Barr Golf Club was reportedly targeted with three jackets reported missing and police were investigating the theft of waterproof jackets at Great Barr Golf Club. Five jackets were reported stolen by Sandwell Park Golf Club.Anyone with information should call police on 101.

Protest meeting anger over retirement homes

MORE than 130 people attended a public meeting to hear more about plans for a development of 22 retirement apartments.

And they said they were shocked by the scale of the development.

The meeting at Wolverhampton Cricket Club was organised by community group Save Tettenhall's Open Spaces and was held to discuss plans by housebuilder McCarthy and Stone to build the flats at The Clock House, 5 Stockwell Road.

Alex Murray, of The Cedars, who is leader of the group, said emotions were running high. He said: "We were shocked to see the size and scale of the development, which we feel is not in keeping with the character of the conservation area.

Undermine

"It was clear from the mood of the room and objections received to date, that people in Tettenhall do not want this development and if approved it would seriously undermine the whole purpose of having a Neighbourhood Plan."

During the meeting, plans were also shown with proposals to put pinch points, which would see the pavement extended into the existing roadway, in Stockwell Road as a traffic calming measure.

Mr Murray said: "Residents were appalled that this was even being considered, as to date there has been no consultation, and were concerned about the traffic and parking problems.

"The majority of the audience were also angry that they had not been consulted properly by McCarthy & Stone."

So far 19 objections to the planned development have been submitted to the council's planning site, including one from Tettenhall and District Community council, which says McCarthy and Stone has failed to address transport issues.

The letter also says that the company did not complete adequate consultation with residents and that their application would lead to a loss of local character.

Darren Humphreys, regional managing director for McCarthy and Stone, said: "We are aware of the recent residents meeting.

"However, we did not attend as we undertook extensive pre application consultation with the local community prior to submitting our planning application."

'Cabbage' plant is a giant puzzler

Rocco Colabella with the mystery plant (Brassica type) that has grown to around 8ft tall

A MYSTERY 'jolly green giant' plant that has baffled a keen Wolverhampton gardener may have been identified – as a walking stick cabbage.

Rocco Colabella, 77, grew the 8ft high plant in an allotment in Pendeford but has no clue what it is.

Now reader Julie Bloomer, 46, from Ashmore Park, believes she has put a name to the plant. She said: "As soon as I saw it I thought 'oh look a walking stick cabbage!' I am a keen gardener and like to grow a lot of unusual things. I first saw this plant three years ago at my local garden centre, it can grow up to 8ft and you can cut the stem out, varnish it, and use it as a walking stick."

Mr Colabella, a retired Goodyear worker, from Oxley, has been eating the plant's leaves since they first began to sprout three years ago. He was given some shoots to plant in his allotment and brought some home to put in his own garden but was shocked at the way one took off. Mr Colabella, from Green Drive, said: "It was about three years ago when somebody gave me the shoots to plant, so I pushed them in the ground but this one just hasn't stop growing.

"I can't remember who the gentleman was that gave them to me or what he said they were called, all he said was 'grow some of this and you will never go short of it."

The plant is non-flowering and described as a perpetual sweet vegetable.

Cuts bring changes to social care provision

A NEW blueprint for working with people who need social care has been agreed by a council in an effort to save £7 million.

Wolverhampton City Council will look to overhaul the way it provides social care, whereby social workers are encouraged to resist providing traditional services and find alternative ways to help people, in order to meet budget cuts.

Under the plans, social workers will be told to look at getting people to work on their issues while continuing to live independently, rather than placing them in statutory social care.

The switch, which the council says has to be made due to restrictions placed on them by the 2014 Care Act, will require a 'cultural change at all levels' according to the city's adult services boss Councillor Steve Evans.

He said: "This is about individuals and meeting their requirements, not a reflection on the services we currently have.

"I have always said that this is how we should focus our services, rather than just keep doing what we always have done. It will require a cultural change at all levels in the city but positive results will follow. We want communities to support each other.

The plans aim to provide support to people through community hubs, ensuring people know what help is available to them through council-run websites and trying to intervene early to prevent the need for social care support in as many cases as possible.

Interest grows in business park

FIRMS are already showing an interest in a new development at a Wolverhampton business park, bosses say.

Work has just finished at Bentley Bridge, creating new units ranging from 5,000sq ft to 33,000sq ft for potential future investment.

It comes after it emerged more than 400 jobs could be created with another development on neighbouring land. Bosses say the site will appeal to manufacturing and trade firms.

James Richards of Clowes Developments UK Ltd said: "For some time we have seen the property market strengthening and we are happy to have now completed the speculative development of Phase 2 Bentley Bridge Business Park. We are very pleased with the interest we have received."

Alert on permits needed for tips

RESIDENTS in Wolverhampton are being warned that they need to apply for a permit to dump rubbish at tips using certain vehicles.

Anyone in a van, pick-up truck, commercial vehicle or trailer needs to apply through the city council.

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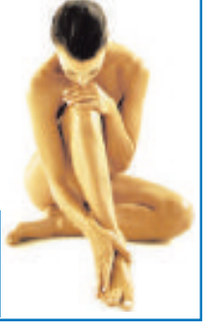

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Drug dealer stopped by police for no seat belt

A DRUG dealer's decision not to wear a seat belt cost him dear, a judge heard.

It prompted police to stop the car driven by David Thornton in Newhampton Road East, Whitmore Reans, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

"It was a routine stop because he was not wearing his seat belt but when they reached the vehicle they noticed a strong smell of cannabis," said Mr Kevin Jones, prosecuting.

The officers could not find any trace of drugs in the car but were still suspicious and called in a specially-trained sniffer dog which discovered £150 worth of cannabis in a carrier bag under the vehicle.

Messages

The bag had the fingerprints of 22-year-old Thornton on it and had been placed there by him without anybody noticing when he got out of the car to speak to the police around 7pm on September 21. Officers also found £486 cash and a mobile phone with text messages indicative of drug dealing, said Mr Jones.

Mr Harbinder Lally, defending, said: "He was very foolish. He is addicted to cannabis and thought he could make a bit of money out of it."

Thornton from Glentworth Gardens, Dunstall, who had a caution for possession of drugs, admitted having cannabis with intent to supply and was jailed for 12 months.

Why Many Clouds had a silver lining

TWO lucky Wolverhampton punters scooped almost £30,000 between them on the Grand National, bookies have revealed.

The anonymous pair had put big money on 33-1 shot Many Clouds winning the famous Aintree race.

One bet £200 on an outright win for Many Clouds, led to a £6,600 profit. The other was celebrating with a £21,625 win from a £500 each way bet.

Both bets were placed at Wolverhampton bookies. But overall it was the bookmakers who won big as they avoided a multi million-pound loss due to strongly-fancied AP McCoy's horse Shutthefrontdoor not winning.

David Stevens from Coral, said: "The only result we feared was a win for Shutthefrontdoor and AP McCoy."

Chance to check on college courses

AN open evening is due to be held at City of Wolverhampton College on May 6 from 5-8pm.

People will be able to find out about the courses if offers and apply on the night.

Parents' shock over bill for 'free' school

PLANS to turn The Royal Wolverhampton School into a free school are in turmoil after being delayed at the last minute by at least 12 months.

The Royal, currently a fee-paying school, had widely advertised that the move would be made at the start of the new academic year in September.

Parents keen to get their child into the school when it became free were prepared to secure a place by enrolling for the current summer term, the last one for which fees were expected to be paid.

The shock news from the Department of Education(DfE) that The Royal would not become a free school until September 2016 at the earliest was announced on March 27, the day it broke up for Easter and only four days before the final day for settlement of summer term fees with a discount, up to £9,410-per-term for boarders and £4,210 for day pupils. The change was deemed the 'best for all parties' because the proposed time scale was too tight. Now, some parents are concerned they may have to pay for an entire year's fees to ensure their child has a place when The Royal finally becomes free.

Loan

One single parent, who asked not to be named, said: "I was prepared to take out a bank loan to pay the £3,000 needed for one term's fees to ensure my child got one of the free places but there is no way that I could pay for an entire year.

"If I could afford that I would have sent my child to an independent school from the outset. I certainly cannot pay this sort of money to ensure my child gets the right education at a supposedly free school. I was so excited that my child might get this chance in life but it is a real mess."

Headmaster Mark Heywood insisted: "I do not think we did anything to cause this. We were shocked by the news but it has not damaged either the reputation of the school or its future. There is no reason why parents should lose confidence in us.

"Recent developments will have caused considerable concern to many current and prospective parents. We will do everything within our power to assist those already on the roll to continue their education until we convert in September 2016."

Hundreds evacuated in film screening protest

HUNDREDS of people had to be evacuated from Cineworld Wolverhampton after 50 protesters staged a sit-in over the screening of a controversial film.

Police were called and the cinema cleared and shut after the group surged through the main entrance and headed for the screen showing Bollywood blockbuster, Nanak Shah Fakir. Once inside the Sikh campaigners sat down on the floor and began to shout, refusing to move until the screening was stopped.

The drama unfolded at the multiplex at Bentley Bridge, Wednesfield, at 5.30pm on Sunday.

Bosses at Cineworld have apologised to customers and have offered full refunds.

Nanak Shah Fakir, which is directed by Sartaj Singh Pannu and narrated by Arif Zakaria, has been mired in controversy since its recent release.

It stems from a depiction of the Guru and other religious figures in human form, which is considered to be a blasphemous violation of religious doctrine by many Sikhs.

It has been banned in many parts of India and attracted mass protests, while some UK cinemas have refused to show it through fear of offending religious sentiments.

Posters

Cineworld said it has no plans to show the film in future following the incident. Posters advertising it have since been removed from the multiplex.

Some cinema goers were left frightened by the protest. One man, who asked not to be named, said he was among dozens of customers asked to leave the when the commotion ensued. He said: "It was extremely intimidating. For a group of people to be able to get a film stopped and then banned is just ridiculous.

"It's an attack on freedom of speech. The atmosphere was quite aggressive in there and it's not what you expect to face when you go and watch a film."

Cineworld spokeswoman Liz Larvin, said: "We can confirm that customers were asked to leave our Wolverhampton cinema due to a small protest. We apologised and offered those customers affected a full refund. The police were called to the cinema and we are currently working closely with them to investigate.

"We have taken the decision to cancel screenings of Nanak Shah Fakir because we want our customers to enjoy visiting our cinemas and experience a wide range of films without disruption from others.

"We apologise to anyone disappointed by this decision and to those customers impacted on Sunday."

Cineworld at Bentley Bridge, Wednesfield which has to be evacuated

'Outstanding' primary in major Ofsted turnaround

A WOLVERHAMPTON school has completed an astonishing turnaround – rated as outstanding, just two years after being branded inadequate by Ofsted inspectors and placed in special measures.

Woden Primary School in Springfield Road was slammed by Ofsted following an inspection in March 2012. The school, which caters for more than 400 pupils saw pupil achievement, behaviour and teaching standards all given the bottom rung rating of '4'.

But last week the school was told it had improved to a rating of outstanding following it's most recent inspection.

In the 2012 report inspectors said the school was failing to give its pupils an acceptable standard of education, that some teaching was not good enough and highlighted poor pupil behaviourand low attendances as major areas for concern.

Congratulated

However in the latest report Ofsted praised the school, which became an academy following it inadequate rating.

Inspectors congratulated the school on the positive demeanour of the pupils and their thirst for learning.

The report also praised the work of the staff and governors in raising standards.

It said: "All leaders, governors and trustees have high expectations for the quality of teaching and for pupils' achievement. They have taken all necessary actions and allocated the resources required to ensure that all pupils achieve these expectations."

Headteacher Helen Vernon said: "The success has been down to the hard work and dedication of all pupils, staff, governors and parents."

NEWS IN BRIEF

New Cross now norovirus clear

NEW Cross Hospital is clear of the winter vomiting bug, norovirus. The latest outbreak, which began at the end of March, was the hospital's third in just eight months.

When it started, bays in two surgical assessment wards and one of the trauma and orthopaedics wards were closed after patients showed symptoms.

Staff also contracted the bug and were not allowed back until they were symptom-free for 48 hours. Chiefs at the Wednesfield hospital said no patients had been seriously unwell.

Chance to clock up some miles

A WALKING festival will give people a chance to clock some miles for a city-wide challenge.

Next month's Wolverhampton Walking Festival has 30 walks on offer, including guided walks around beauty spots including West Park, East Park, Pendeford Mill, Northycote Farm, Bantock Park and the Smestow Valley.

There will be a special early morning walk as well as Nordic Walking taster sessions.

The festival is due to take place from May 2-10. Call 0800 073 4242.

VE anniversary fun to take off

A SPITFIRE, Hurricane and Dakota will fly overhead at an event to celebrate the 70th anniversary of VE Day.

It is part of a 1940s weekend at Willenhall Rugby Club in Bognop Road, Essington. On May 3 the Spitfire and Hurricane will fly past at 1.20pm, followed by the Dakota at 2.10pm.

On May 2 and 3 there will be a vintage hairdresser, stalls selling old-fashioned sweets and vintage items, military displays and vehicles and 1940s-style entertainment.

By George! Pupils to tuck in and celebrate

YOUNGSTERS in all of Wolverhampton's primary schools are set to celebrate St George's Day in true English style.

Next Thursday will see pupils enjoy an all English menu to celebrate the day with meals including sausage and Yorkshire pudding with sweet potato mash or a special Red Dragon Pie with mash and vegetables.

The tasty menus are developed with help from pupils, parents and school catering staff.

Sports pitch goal

A NEW sports pitch will be built and car park extended at a school in Wolverhampton under new plans.

St Luke's C of E Primary in Haggar Street will get nine new parking spaces to add to the existing 17.

The proposals have been submitted to Wolverhampton City Council.

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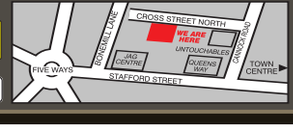

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

A READER asks: "Why, if mineral water has been percolating through volcanic rocks for millions of years to achieve its level of purity, does my bottle have a sell-by date of November 15?

SOME forecasters are predicting a long, hot summer. In all probability we will enter it with an unpopular government and independence fever on the rise in Scotland. Are the water cannon ready?

TED Loveday hit the headlines for "leading his team to victory" in this week's final of University Challenge. True, he got a lot of questions right. But the Gonville and Caius team was captained not by Loveday but by the medical student Anthony Martinelli who gave a master class in captaincy. Throughout the series he held his team together, sifted their opinions, decided who should answer, kept his nerve and applied some spectacular logic-crunching to some fiendishly hard questions. By all means applaud the star, but never underestimate the value of leadership.

OUR changing language. The Tory plan to allow housing-association tenants to buy their homes is hailed as a "revolution." Or, as we used to say, a bribe.

MIND you, it worked for Mrs Thatcher. She won power thanks to the support of Labour voters switching to Tory on the promise of buying their council houses at massive discounts. Thousands of families snapped up their homes for less than £20,000 and are now sitting on property worth £200,000-plus. The snag? If you need long-term care at the end of your life, your assets will be confiscated by the proprietors of Mr Nasty's Home for the Terminally Bewildered while those tenants who resisted the urge to buy and have limited assets will be paid for by the State.

ONE stern promise we can cheerfully disregard is this week's suggestion that foreigners will be asked to produce identification before getting NHS treatment. I doubt if there is an NHS doctor or nurse alive who would refuse to help someone in distress simply because they couldn't produce a passport.

A POLL reveals Britain is one of the least religious countries in the world. So does that make us a nation of wicked, immoral and selfish folk? Apparently not. A survey a couple of years ago by the World Giving Index revealed that Britain is the most generous developed nation when it comes to giving to charity and helping strangers in distress. So we are godless and yet good. In fact, if you want to find an unhappy, uncaring, lawless ignorant and impoverished country, try looking at the list of the ones where the holy men are in charge.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Tributes paid to canal death man

TRIBUTES have been paid to a 'pillar of the community' who was found dead in a Wolverhampton canal.

Milton Marshall, aged 60, of Crofters Walk, Pendeford, was found in the canal near to Aldersley Bridge last week.

The father-of-three was a well-known and much-loved figure around Pendeford and Park Village, where he had moved to from London around 15 years ago.

Mr Marshall, who was due to celebrate his 61st birthday next month, quickly became a popular figure known for his easy smile and happy-go-lucky attitude to life.

He was a keen cyclist and a regular in the Park Village stores on Cannock Road, where he built up a close friendship with proprietor Mohammed Khan. A tearful Mr Khan said: "Milton talked to everyone. Even the schoolchildren knew him and would stop him to say hello.

"The news has saddened everyone in the community. He hadn't been his usual self lately, but he will be remembered as a lively, happy person who was always singing, joking and laughing.

"People have been coming into the shop, everyone saying how sorry they are."

Mr Marshall worked for a London council before relocating to the West Midlands in 2000. He is survived by family including two sons and a daughter, all of whom are based around the London area.

Milton Marshall

Health bill of £61m for reserve bank staff

By Adam Burling

HOSPITALS and the ambulance service in the West Midlands spent £61 million on wages for reserve bank staff in a single year.

The majority of the money went on nurses and clerical staff at sites through the Black Country and Staffordshire.

The biggest outlay was at the Heart of England NHS Trust in Birmingham with £15m, followed by Dudley with £11.9m and the trust that runs Sandwell Hospital with £11.1m.

Critics have said it shows hospitals do not have enough permanent staff and are being forced to call on bank workers, whose wages are often higher. It comes as hospitals struggle to cope with rocketing numbers of admissions and falling budgets.

Clerical

West Midlands Ambulance shelled out £1.16 million in 2013/14, including £740,145 on 'additional clinical services' and £139,438 on admin and clerical staff.

Some £11.1m was spent by Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust, which runs Sandwell Hospital and City Hospital in Winson Green. The most was spent on qualified nurses at £4.39m, with £2.45m on 'unqualified' nurses such as care assistants, and £2.45m on admin and clerical workers.

A total of £6.1m was spent at Wolverhampton's New Cross Hospital with £4.3m of that going on nurses and care assistants and £909,000 on admin.

South Staffordshire and Shropshire NHS Trust, which providers mental health services including St George's Hospital in Stafford, spent £4.63m on bank staff including £448,000 on clerical workers and the rest on medical staff.

Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Partnership NHS Trust paid £2.94m with £2.4m of that on nurses and care assistants.

Walsall figures were not available.

High note as pupils join opera stars

Pupils from East Park Primary were rehearsing to perform La Boheme with the English Touring Opera

SCHOOLCHILDREN joined forces with the English Touring Opera for a night of magic at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre.

Twelve youngsters from East Park School in the city teamed up with the ETO to perform in La Boheme, a story of 19th century Parisian street life.

School headmaster and arts council member, Nick Sullivan co-ordinated with the theatre to give his pupils the opportunity to perform in the one-off show.

Mr Sullivan said: "Theatre is a life gift. It's an amazing experience for the students to take part and exposing them at an early age to high culture will help set them up for life.

"The children and staff at East Park Primary fully appreciate how fortunate they were to have such a proactive partnership with the ETO team

"For the pupils taking part it will be life changing and some could go on to have careers in theatre and showbusiness."

The children, all aged from eight to 11, had been recruited especially for the tour to sing as a children's chorus of street urchins in Puccini's classic opera, which stars soprano Sky Ingram.

For some, it was the first time they had performed in a theatre but others had taken part with their school in Zeppelin Dreams last year, which had been created by ETO and the Grand Theatre especially for Wolverhampton.

Number of jobless in region still going down

UNEMPLOYMENT in the West Midlands was down by 1,000 to 172,000 between December and February.

Nationally, joblessness has continued to fall and a record 31 million people are in work.

The UK unemployment total fell by 76,000 to 1.84 million in the quarter, the lowest for almost seven years. The figures from the Office for National Statistics are the last before the General Election.

The number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance fell by 20,700 in March to 772,400, the 29th consecutive monthly cut.

Lowest

In the West Midlands, the number of claimants was down 2,518 to 87,326. Wolverhampton and Birmingham, with rates of 4.5 per cent of the working population, have the highest level of people claiming.

Wolverhampton's total fell by 281 to 7,247 with Sandwell down by 176 to 7,388 (3.7 pc), Dudley falling 139 to 5,703 (2.9pc) and Walsall down 124 to 5,183 (3.1pc).

The number of claimants in Cannock Chase fell by 65 to 844 (1.3pc) with Lichfield down by 43 to 420. The city's rate of 0.7pc is one of the lowest in the region.

Stafford saw 13 fewer claimants at 632 (0.8pc) and South Staffordshire was down by just two to 853 (1.2pc).

Wyre Forest, which includes Kidderminster, saw a decline of 87 to 912 (1.5pc).

Law firm on 'best place to work' list

A LAW firm with branches in the Black Country is celebrating after being named as one of the best places to work in the UK, according to new national rankings.

FBC Manby Bowdler 's credentials as a great employer were highlighted in the annual Best Companies to Work For results, which form part of the Sunday Times 100 Best Companies list.

It has 31 partners and around 200 solicitors, associates, paralegals and support staff, based at offices in Wolverhampton, Willenhall, Telford, Shrewsbury and Bridgnorth.

The 'one star' status follows three consecutive years of the firm achieving a 'one to watch' ranking. The results are compiled by employee engagement firm, Best Companies.

Artist to go solo for gallery display

AN artist will stage her first solo exhibition in an art gallery in Wolverhampton.

Claire Starmer's mixed media work will be on display from Monday to Friday next week at The Asylum Gallery, Clifton Street, Chapel Ash.

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Jail for man who raped prostitute in car park

AN illegal immigrant who raped a prostitute in a Wolverhampton pub car park has been jailed for four years and eight months.

Ismeal Kadri, a 28-year-old Kurdish father-of-three who was smuggled into this country in May last year after leaving his family in Iran and has since lost a claim for asylum, struck five months after arriving in the UK, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

He saw a sex worker in Newhampton Road West, Whitmore Reans, and persuaded her to go to the rear of the nearby Bagot Arms where they agreed a £20 fee but she refused to have unprotected sex, explained Miss Blondelle Thompson, prosecuting.

Kadri, who had been drinking, would not take no for an answer and forced the woman to the ground where he put a hand across her mouth and raped her shortly after midnight on October 16, the court was told.

The attacker ran away but was identified by forensic checks of the scene and arrested soon afterwards.

Mr Simon Williams, defending, said: "It was the first time he had drunk alcohol and he is ashamed of the effect it had on him."

Kadri, of no fixed abode, pleaded guilty to rape and was sentenced by Judge John Warner who told him: "You forced her to the ground and used your weight to keep her down before covering her mouth with a hand to stop her shouting out for help. A sex worker is just as entitled as anyone else to say no."

Firemen rescue trapped seagull

FIREFIGHTERS launched a mission to rescue an injured seagull that had become trapped in netting around the roof of a Wolverhampton store.

The RSPCA was contacted by a concerned member of the public who had spotted the distressed bird in the guttering above Speedy Cash on Market Street.

A fire crew from Fallings Park's Blue Watch was dispatched with firefighter Mark Cund climbing more than 20ft up a ladder to get to the gull.

The bird, which had a gash on its leg after becoming caught between the roof and a section of netting, was skilfully guided into a box and taken down to safety. One unnamed firefighter suffered a nasty peck on the finger from the gull.

Bus service now hourly to the i54

A BUS service will call at the i54 site every hour. Arriva's 76 service, which runs between Wolverhampton, Penkridge and Stafford, will also now call at County Hospital and Staffordshire University's Stafford campus.

Pie chart puts Molineux at 10th best

WOLVES' hopes of finishing sixth in the table and earning a place in the play-offs may be fading but if the team was ranked on the quality of Molineux's pie and toilets, they would be languishing in 10th place in the Championship.

That's according to a new report that ranked all grounds in the division, based on factors such as how far they are from the nearest pub, the number of toilets available and of course, the quality of pie on offer.

The positives for Wolves' beloved and historic Molineux home included the Billy Wright statue, said to be the best in the whole country.

And while Molineux was found to be one of the judge's 'favourite stadiums', it came in for criticism for its atmosphere since the Stan Cullis Stand was rebuilt. The list was published by website ToThe92.co.uk and put together by a football fan who visited the stadiums of all 92 teams from the Premier League and Football Leagues and recorded his observations.

The summary, put together by ToThe92.co.uk and buildingmaterials.co.uk, also reads: "We found the Molineux stadium to be one of our favourite stadiums. Before the construction of the new Stan Cullis stand, Molineux was one of the most intimidating grounds in the country.

"It is difficult to describe why, but the shape of the stands curving around the edge of the pitch just helped to provide an atmosphere whereby visiting players would feel a little more under the microscope. "Even in the three older stands there is more than enough leg room and concourses and facilities are more than adequate."

The good news for Wolves fans was that Molineux finished above St Andrews, home to local rivals Birmingham (15th), Wigan Athletic's DW Stadium was rated as the worst with top of the table Derby County's iPro stadium, renamed from Pride Park in 2013.

However, Wolves fans have hit backm claiming the stadium is amongst the very best in the division.

Retired construction worker James Morrissey, 62, of Westcroft, Underhill, said: "They should be in the top five. It looks good and you can't fault the place."

Help is being offered to 3,000 troubled families

HELP is being offered to almost 3,000 troubled families in a bid to get unemployed parents into work and truanting pupils into school.

A total of 2,800 families are set to have their lives turned around in Wolverhampton.

The city council wants to attract £5.1 million of government funding as part of its Families in Focus programme.

A total of 810 households have already been supported, with the 2,800 new ones to be targeted over the next five years.

Troubled families are defined as those who are involved in youth crime or anti-social behaviour, have children who are regularly playing truant from school or have an adult on out-of-work benefits. They can also be affected by domestic violence or health problems. For a family to be eligible for help, they must meet have two of the six problems.

The government has said that these families cost the public sector an estimated average of £75,000 per year through responding to their problems and have set local authorities targets to solve the issue.

Schedule

The Wolverhampton's Families in Focus programme reached a three-year target to help 810 families three months ahead of schedule earlier this year – earning the authority £865,000 through a payment-by-results scheme.

Bosses agreed during a cabinet meeting that they would commit to helping a further 2,840 families by March 2020, in the hope that their work will mean around £5 million in funds and improve the livelihoods of thousands of people in the city.

Organisations will be given an attachment fee of £1,000 to help each family identified, with a turnaround fee of £800 given back on top of that if work is successful, meaning each family turned around will gain the council £1,800.

Councillor Val Gibson, Wolverhampton's families boss, said: "We were faced with a challenge of turning around the lives of 810 troubled families in this city in just under three years, through improving young people's school attendance, reducing anti-social behaviour and getting parents back in to work.

"We achieved that target with months to spare.

"We are now looking at a five-year challenge and to do this."

Police on the ball for Bully

Steve Bull with Ricky Jackson and, back, John Bates, Daljit Padda and PC Paul Gibbons

WEST Midlands Police are set to take on the cream of Wolverhampton's young football talent in a charity match to raise funds for the Steve Bull Foundation.

The clash is the centrepiece of a family charity day packed with activities, including bouncy castles, a children's penalty shoot-out, raffle, live music and dancing.

The event has been organised by a group of second year Business Management students from the University of Wolverhampton, led by team leader Ricky Jackson.

The 23-year-old from Willenhall pitched the idea to charity bosses who were excited by the prospect of forging links between the police and youngsters in the aid of a good cause.

Students at the university have raised more than £100,000 for charities, including Compton Hospice and Acorns, since the course module started five years ago. The Steve Bull Foundation was set up by the Wolves hero to provide charitable support to organisations in the West Midlands which specialise in assisting young people, the disabled, the homeless, the sick and the disadvantaged.

The charity fun day runs at Aldersley Stadium, Aldersley Road, Wolverhampton on May 2 from noon-6pm.

For more information contact Ricky on 07889 742520.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pub fundraiser for injured fan

A FUNDRAISING event for Watford supporter Nic Cruwys raised £1,500.

The 44-year-old has been in hospital since he was brutally attacked after the club's game against Wolves at Molineux on March 7.

The Golden Lion Pub, Watford, hosted an event on Sunday featuring live music, a BBQ, bouncy castle, and auction featuring signed football memorabilia from a range of clubs including Watford, Chelsea and Tottenham Hotspur, and match tickets.

The pub said it was a 'brilliant' day with about 150 people.

Marstons's work closes off paths

FOOTPATHS will be off limits for the next six weeks while Marston's demolishes its brewery in Wolverhampton.

Bulldozers are on site on Chapel Ash tearing down part of the firm's HQ. Work will continue for the rest of the year with staff temporarily housed over the road in Coniston House.

Paths around the brewery are now closed for safety reasons and will remain so until May 24. Diversions are on Meadow Street, Chapel Ash Island, Ring Road St Marks, Darlington Street, School Street and Ring Road St Andrews.

Discount bus saver extended

A DISCOUNT ticket is being extended on bus services in Staffordshire and the Black Country.

The weekly passes on the whole 76 route between Stafford and Wolverhampton calling at Dunston, Penkridge, Gailey, Brewood and Coven. Black Country weekly savers are £11.30 for adults and £5.70 for children. Daniel Flanagan Cannock local manager of Arriva Midlands said: "We're pleased to introduce these new saver tickets."

Cardboard set alight in skip near school

FIREFIGHTERS attended a skip fire close to a Wolverhampton school.

A large amount of cardboard was set alight within a skip near Deansfield Community School on Deans Road.

Firefighters from Fallings Park Fire Station put it out before it could spread any further. Nobody was injured.

Dean Coombes, headteacher, said: "The area had got very smoky as a result of the fire but fortunately it had no impact on learning activity."

Arrest after man bitten

A MAN was arrested after a shopkeeper was bitten on the hand during a row outside a phone shop.

Police were called to Techno2day Limited in Wolverhampton following reports of a row. A 27-year-old Wolverhampton man was arrested for assaultand bailed during inquiries.

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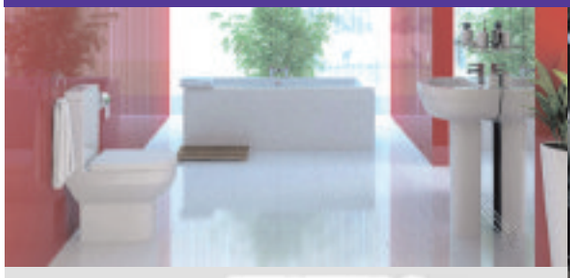

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IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

It's time we made more of our own rich history

PHONICS. Why don't we spell that the way we pronounce it?

HAVING just returned from a few days in Normandy, one thing that struck me was the innovative ways they have of making the most out of their historic buildings and places.

Probably the most spectacular attraction was the four-storey, cylindrical photographic panorama at Rouen, which really makes you feel like you are standing in the middle of 4th-century Rome.

Now imagine if we had such a thing in the Black Country, depicting what the area would have looked like 1,000 years ago. Thousands would flock to it from all over the Midlands. Of course, that would require some serious money, but there are other, simpler and cheaper options.

In the grounds of a Norman Castle, there were several binocular-like devices pointing at the building, allowing people to see how it would have looked in the Middle Ages. The Black Country has a rich and fascinating history and some superb attractions. There is so much more we could do with a little imagination.

BACK in 1997, in a rush of patriotic fervour, I bought a Rover 800 car. It was a gesture I very quickly lived to regret as the thing seemed to spend most of the next two years stuck on the ramp in the garage.

Sticking valves, blown head gaskets and a big appetite for catalytic converters, patience finally snapped when it ground to a standstill in a big puff of smoke on my way to work.

Churning out cars like that, it's not hard to see why Rover production ground to an abrupt halt 10 years ago. That said, it is hard not to feel sad at the loss of a great British institution, particularly as we no longer have any genuinely British-owned car manufacturers.

Some people may remember a chap called Jon Moulton, a venture capitalist from Stoke, who tried to buy Rover five years before its collapse. His plans, to reduce the workforce by two thirds and turn the group into a smaller producer of niche cars sparked howls of protest. Not to mention the usual noisy demonstrations from the sort of people who would protest against fresh air if they had a banner handy.

The protesters won the day, Moulton threw in the towel, and along came the Phoenix Four with bold promises about keeping mass production at Longbridge by churning out vast volumes of the same old products that nobody liked. Looking back, Rover's demise was inevitable once the Phoenix Four took over. But 10 years on, Moulton still insists he could have saved Longbridge. I have no idea whether that is true, but he couldn't have done much worse, could he?

A shot by club membet Sue Taylor called Nuthatch

Brian Dean's photograph called Waiting for Service

The Waterfront by Eric Buchan, taken at Brierley Hill

A snapshot of keen photographers' work

A photography group has put its work in the frame at Himley Hall. **RICHARD GUTTRIDGE** takes a look

FROM classic cars to wildlife and famous buildings – the work of amateur snappers is in the frame at Himley Hall.

The talents of Stourbridge Photographic Society will be on display for all to see for the next four months.

Dozens of people attended the historic hall for the opening of the club's largest-ever exhibition, which is being staged until September.

A total of 172 images are available to view with all club members making a contribution towards the exhibition – from the more experienced to beginners.

Club secretary John Bissell said: "It is a selection of everybody's prints from the club, right from beginners, so it caters for everybody."

For Mr Bissell, aged 74, from Wollascote, Stourbridge, the launch of the exhibition is a proud moment.

Amazing

He has been part of the Stourbridge Photographic Society for more than 40 years and has seen its membership steadily grow. There are now round 60 members.

Mr Bissell said: "We had an exhibition previously at Himley but that was only for about a month. To have one for five months is absolutely amazing.

"We might change the pictures half way through. The photos have been in competitions and exhibitions before.

"There are portraits, landscapes, still life, you name it. We just want as many people as possible to come and see them."

Mr Bissell is also hopeful some of the observers coming into the hall might be tempted to pick up the camera themselves. He said: "People who come along to exhibitions say 'I could never do that' but they can because I have. If people have an interest in photos it gives them another outlet."

Mr Bissell has a clear favourite among those on display. He said: "It's a black and white picture of Tuscany which was done by Heather Woodhams, our former president.

"It's got the rolling fields of Tuscany and buildings in the background. In terms of landscape it's absolutely perfect." The society is nearing its centenary having been formed in 1917. It was based in Lye for much of its existence, but members now meet at the Bonded Warehouse in Canal Street, Stourbridge.

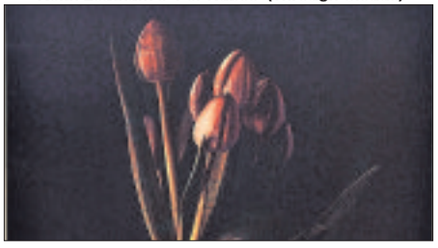
Mr Bissell said: "We pride ourselves on being a friendly club, catering for all, welcoming everyone with an interest in photography, whatever their skill or photographic discipline.

"It's a club where everyone is welcome and are encouraged to enjoy their photography, in whatever way they wish."

Club secretary John Bissell and member Abigail Brittany Garvey take in the show

Black Country Basin, taken by David Allen

Keith Leatham's 'Per Nubes' (Through Clouds)



"Tulips" by Martin Bruntnell is on display

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Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

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We won't sell out to the SNP – Ed

DANIEL WAINWRIGHT
Political Editor

THERE'S a long-standing gripe with politicians that they never answer a question. Ed Balls is the opposite.

You can't shut the shadow chancellor up. I've often wondered why he's considered by his critics to be such a liability for Labour.

To his credit he answered something that Ed Miliband has so far failed to adequately address – the prospect of selling out England to the SNP.

The Labour leader is adamant there will be no Scottish Nationalist ministers in his cabinet. But a lot of people still want to know what concessions he would make to the SNP in order to keep him in power for five years, despite his protests in the recent televised debates.

Assurance

It might lock the Tories out of Number 10. But it would be electoral suicide for Labour. So when, on a visit to Wolverhampton, Ed Balls gave an 'unequivocal' assurance that Labour would not allow the West Midlands to be disadvantaged, it sounded as though the nettle was being grasped.

He said: "There is absolutely no possibility of any vote being put to Parliament or any measure in a Labour budget which would in any way disadvantage the West Midlands or any other part of England because that's what the SNP demand. No way. Unequivocal. I'm not going to do it and Labour isn't going to do it.

"We've been very clear we won't have a coalition with the SNP. They can't stand up for the interests of people in England because they want to break up the United Kingdom. We're going to put a vote to Parliament to abolish the Bedroom Tax. I want a Labour majority to get that through.

Ed Balls – not short on answers

William Hague out campaigning

That's 162 words there that could well make an enormous difference to Labour's campaign in England. Of course it won't have done very much to foster good relations in Scotland, where Labour is facing the loss of dozens of seats to the SNP.

But that's the battle the two Eds have to face.

The polls suggest that even if they head up the largest party after May 7, it won't be with a majority.

If they cook up a deal with the SNP that hands concessions to a country with a population smaller than the West Midlands, there will be a revolt by Labour backbenchers who will face the wrath of their constituents.

No party wants to be in opposition. It is a miserable existence. But it must be better than setting your party on to a path where in order to remain in power you have to betray the people who voted for you in favour of a country that rejected you.

William Hague has surely earned the right to head off into political retirement, having stood down as an MP after 26 years. But he was on the campaign trail in Dudley South last week and doing his bit to help the Tories hold on to this key marginal seat.

For what it's worth I'm glad he's still around. His final act in Parliament was to lead a Tory attempt to get a secret ballot to decide the future of Marmite speaker John Bercow. Critics called it a grubby plot.

It was an unfitting coda to a political career whose highlight was the introduction of the landmark Disability Discrimination Act. Getting out and about on the campaign trail is a far more fitting swansong.

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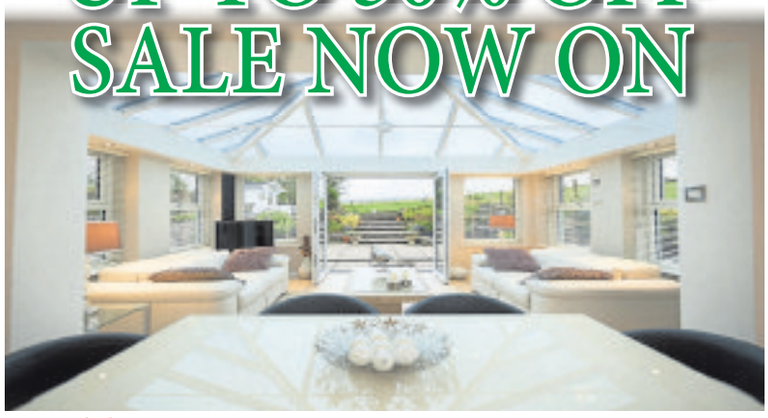
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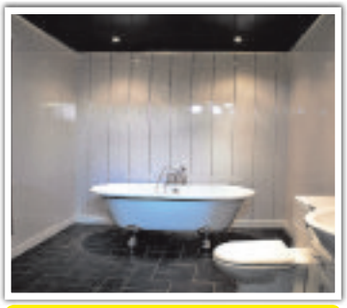
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Meeting Knowles made our day

I TOOK my grandson Tyler to Wolverhampton .We travelled by bus, it had to be a double decker, sitting right at the front. Children go everywhere by car so a bus journey is a treat.

Arriving I had to inquire the way to the Wolves shop. Out of all the people in Wolverhampton the person was former Wolves star Peter Knowles. He asked us a few questions about Wolves but didn't reveal his identity straight away. I can remember what a good player he was and how disappointed fans were when he retired at an early age, 24, to be a Jehovah's Witness.

He shook our hands, had Tyler's address, saying he would put something in the post. A few days later he called at their house, gave Tyler a framed football programme of September 3, 1969 of the Wolves v Spurs replay. in the Football League Cup of Cyril Knowles and Peter shaking hands. We would all like to thank Peter for kindness.

P CHUTER
Stourbridge

Thanks for aid after fall

I WOULD like to thank all concerned with helping and calling an ambulance when I fell in Lichfield Street near the Number 2 bus stop.

Mostly the two junior doctors from New Cross Hospital, who happened to be passing, who came to my aid, Martam Malik and Seema Malvankar.

Paramedics, Joy Hughes and Adam Brewster (technician), arrived promptly and couldn't have done enough for me. I was taken to A&E where I was treated with the upmost of care.

Thank you Dr Emily and nurse Elizabeth, all the team and the ladies in the X-ray department.

S FARNELL
Wolverhampton

Nice to see life in the old brewery

WE quite often see pieces about the old brewery in Springfields. It is always named as Mitchells and Butlers but in fact until sometime about 1960 (I think) William Butler owned it. I don't think there was any family connection.

I was born in 1924 and attended St Stephen's School, by the gates of the brewery, from 1930 to 1936. Every day we saw the brewery traffic coming and going.On the first of May, every year the waggoners competed for the best dressed horse prize, the horses were beautifully groomed and silk ribbons were plaited into their tails and manes.

My brother-in-law Les Birch and all the male members of the family worked there for many years; his father was head cooper.

It will be nice to see the old brewery come back to life again. Well done University of Wolverhampton. If any of the people from the school at the time that I was there are still about I would be delighted to hear from them.

B SADLER
Wolverhampton

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Wolverhampton Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

E-MAIL
wolverhampton.chronicles@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

EU cost the fish industry

OUR MPs in some political parties talk of job losses if this country pulled out of the EU. They have very short memories.

I for one remember the very large job losses in the last century because of joining the EU.

The job losses I am talking about was the once very proud fishing industry, that put food on the table for the people of this country and that looked after the fish stocks around our shores, only to be kicked in the teeth for the trouble.

This country had a second Spanish Armada, very large fishing boats with very fine nets that have devastated the fish stocks around the shores of this country – no Drake to stop them.

All done and dusted at the stroke of a pen.

Fishing boats left to rot, families with no jobs. The big mistake MPs make are they have very short memories.

The people of this country do not.

B LAWLEY
Bilston

Welcome to the city of W

I was horrified to see that the new Midland Metro trams, when heading to Wolverhampton, display the appalling destination 'W St Georges'. Is this not the ultimate insult?

As if it's not bad enough to give us new trams with dreadful rock-hard seats, the Metro bosses have now degraded our name to a mere initial letter!

Despite all the ridiculous hype about being an 'exciting, vibrant city', many of us take the view that Wolverhampton is now just a pale shadow of the town it used to be.

Even so, surely we are worthy of more respect than just an initial letter?

Apart from that, it's also ambiguous. A stranger might think that 'W' referred to Winson Green, West Bromwich or Wednesbury. I certainly hope that our civil leaders will make a top level complaint to Midland Metro.

In the meantime, welcome to the proud city of W!

R OLIVER
Wolverhampton

Traffic congestion needs to be sorted out – now

ALL of us who live in Tettenhall, or anywhere on the west side of the city, have suffered traffic congestion at the Rock junction for decades.

Wolverhampton's councillors have ignored the problem, presumably because it's too difficult to solve.

While it's true to say, to completely eradicate the problem with some type of flyover arrangement, is out of the question on financial grounds, that is no excuse for not trying to make things better.

For instance, traffic flow to and from the city from the Rock and Tettenhall Road could be improved by adjusting the timing of the traffic lights to accommodate the volume of traffic at peak times.

The problem of vehicles backing up in Henwood Road, due mostly to vehicles turning right towards the city, could be vastly reduced by simply modifying the pavement to allow vehicles turning left up the Rock or going straight over towards Codsall, room to pass.

Vehicles turning right from Lower Street into The Rock cause similar problems and this would be the hardest to improve.

Allowing right-turning vehicles into Lower Green is one possibility, but increased traffic would be detrimental to those living there. Widening Lower Street is another.

I won't pretend that my suggestions are the answer, but I think those elected to the council on May 7 should make it a priority to at least address the problem..

DOUG HOPE
UKIP Wolverhampton

Let's go for electoral reform and bring the numbers down

AT the risk of boring potential voters in the forthcoming election, which is in my opinion a foregone conclusion, as politicians already know the results. A total of 350 safe seats, and smaller parties holding the final conclusion, another coalition. How sad is that.

It is high time the electoral system was reformed and politician numbers bought down. There are 650 MPs, 750 MEPs and approaching 1,000 Lords, far too many to administer voters' requirements.

They are borrowing £90bn each year to fund the deficit, with interest payments of over £50bn, and national debt of £1,512bn. But no, let's award ourselves an 11 per cent pay rise, after the election of course, as voters will have forgotten that bit, or the £200bn promise for Trident?

If you or I managed our household accounts so badly, we would be made bankrupt.

M COOPER
Wolverhampton

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Teenager locked up for taking photos of victims

A TEENAGER has been locked up for his part in an attack that saw two men punched in the head, stripped naked and forced to engage in sex acts.

Samuel Young, aged 19, took pictures of the victims on his phone after they were terrorised by Martin Harris and Mark Wright at a flat in Compton Road, Wolverhampton.

Young, of Laburnum Grove, Bentley, Walsall, was sent to a Young Offenders Institute for four months for common assault.

At Wolverhampton Crown Court Miss Rebecca Wade, prosecuting, said the victims had visited the flat, where the defendant lived at the time in April last year, and were told they could stay there by Harris and Wright.

However, the pair then proceeded to carry out a 'serious assault' on the two victims before hitting one in the head and ordering both men to take all their clothes off.

Charity

At this point, Young arrived and said he 'did not like snitches' in relation to a previous crime he had been involved in.

He then took photos on his phone as Wright and Harris, who have both since been jailed for GBH and assault, performed sex acts on their victims. Young then sent the photos to Wright.

During questioning, Young initially said he acted in fear that he would be subjected to violence by Wright and Harris, though he subsequently distanced himself from the claim. Miss Wade said the defendant had previous convictions for theft and battery.

Lisa Hancox, mitigating, called on Judge John Warner to impose a suspended sentence adding that Young had stayed out of trouble since 2010 and was working with the charity Catch 22, which helps people in tough situations to turn their lives around.

So who gets the chop?

So who is your money on ? With the 'swine-ometer', is owner Richard Simkin, at Essington Fruit Farm

Whose political bacon are you going to save this General Election?

You could draw a cross inside the Conservapig box, show support for Laboar or even decide you want UPIG to win, if you pay a visit to Essington Fruit Farm

The farm has opened its annual Swine-Ometer up for the general public to share their party preference before May 7.

The site, which includes a butchery, wants people to cast their vote in reception depending on who they want to see in power, with the relevant wooden pigs moving closer to a trough the more votes they get.

Farm owner Richard Simkin said: "Last time out the Swine-Ometer was very popular and actually quite close to how the General Election turned out.

"This is just a bit of fun, nothing malicious against politicians, we do it every election and everyone has a good laugh about it."

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Customer in screwdriver attack on shopkeeper

A CUSTOMER at a Bilston convenience store stabbed the shopkeeper in the back with a screwdriver.

William Rogan , a regular at Lifestyle Express in Constantine Way, Bilston, suddenly turned on Balbinder Singh, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

The 21-year-old came up behind the victim and plunged a screwdriver into his back before running off, said Mr Robert Edwards, prosecuting.

He explained: "Mr Singh felt a sharp pain in the upper middle of his back. He was facing in the opposite direction but eyewitnesses saw what happened.

Jacket

He suffered a small puncture wound to his back and was saved from serious injury by his padded jacket."

Rogan, who had never caused any problem during frequent earlier visits, snapped after a problem with his electricity payment card prevented him from using it at the store on October 17.

Mr Edwards said: "Mr Singh was outside supervising work on the shop shutter when the defendant

by John Scott

swore at him as he left. He went inside to ask the staff what the problem was and they told him what had happened.

"Twenty minutes later Mr Singh was still outside testing the shutters when the defendant returned and stabbed him."

The shopkeeper said afterwards that the way the screwdriver cut through the heavy jacket and into his skin showed how hard the blow had been. The weapon was later found where it had been dropped by Rogan.

Rogan from Great Bridge, Moxley, admitted assault and possession of an offensive weapon and was given a community order under supervision for three years with a mental health treatment requirement.

Survivor Bill creates a garden paradise

Bill Glover caring for his garden and gnomes, despite having had a triple bypass and prostate cancer

HE has survived a heart attack and battled cancer, but a Wombourne pensioner has refused to let his health troubles stop him creating his own version of paradise in his back yard.

Bill Glover has designed what he describes as his 'wonderland' in the back garden of his sheltered care bungalow in Victoria Grove. The plot has taken three years to build.

Quirky

It contains a host of quirky features, including people sculpted out of trees, a wishing well, a frog on a swing, a hand-carved crocodile and a steadily increasing number of gnomes – one of them proudly sporting a Wolves scarf.

"I shouldn't be here by rights," said the 72-year-old. "Getting the garden done with all the gnomes really brightened things up and keeps me laughing."

Mr Glover was diagnosed with prostate cancer six years ago but managed to pull through - only to suffer a heart attack which required a triple bypass operation in 2010.

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The business is still very much family run with Company Director Dave Walters heavily involved with the everyday running of the business with five other members of staff who are family members. Dave's wife, Claire Walters has also joined the company to assist Dave with Health & Safety and HR requirements.

Our company ethos is 'if a job is worth doing, it's worth doing right'. We pride ourselves on our professionalism, workmanship, quality and aftersales and this is why we have gone from strength to strength over the last 8 years of economic uncertainty.

We now have approximately 4500 happy customers on our books. We took on 676 customers last year alone and 60 - 70% of these were recommendations or repeat business from existing customers having more work done. This is testament to our high levels of customer satisfaction and quality workmanship.

Over the past twelve months we have improved the foundation of the company by attaining Construction Health & Safety Scheme accreditation (CHAS), training all of our staff in health & safety procedures and appointing an external health & safety advisor to ensure that we are working safely and competently on customers properties and performing first class installations. This has also achieved us our first major commercial contract replacing 100 properties with windows and doors for a local housing association. We have taken on new products such as the Equinox Tiled roofing system for conservatories and noticed a massive swing of customers choosing composite doors as opposed to UPVC which offer improved looks and security.

Moving forward, DW Windows Ltd have completely outgrown our local Sedgley showroom and are now near to completing a deal to secure additional larger premises. This will enable us to continue to expand our installation team, create new office space and enable us to have one of the largest showrooms in the Midlands to showcase all of our fantastic products. Although we will keep our Sedgley showroom, the new premises

will allow us to create more jobs, assist the company to continue to expand whilst offering an increased product range and an even better service to our customers.

Police called as queues spark clashes at tips

POLICE have been called to deal with spats between drivers as traffic jams build up at two tips in the Black Country.

Queues of up to 60 cars are forming at the Anchor Lane recycling centre in Lanesfield, Wolverhampton. And jams at the site in Shaw Road, Bushbury, have stretched down Bushbury Lane, Stafford Road and Showell Road.

It comes after the opening hours at both tips were slashed due to council cuts. Complaints have been made to Wolverhampton City Council, with some people fly-tipping their waste instead of sitting in the queues.

Trade

Nearby businesses have lost trade and police have been called to deal with arguments breaking out between drivers waiting to get into the tip and those trying to access other businesses.

The tips are open five days a week from 10am to 4pm. Anchor Lane is closed on Tuesday and Wednesday and Shaw Road on Thursday and Friday.

Chris Camm who works at Quality Office Supplies by the tip on Anchor Lane called for the centre to be closed down.

She said: "The situation with the recycling centre is terrible. I phoned the police about it."

Last year, the council scrapped 31 recycling bins outside pubs, supermarkets, shops and other premises in the city. Queues by the Shaw Road tip have stretched down three roads.Tip user Richard Warburton said the queue situation was 'complete chaos'.

Councillors have reported receiving dozens of complaints and have been in touch with the council to rethink opening hours.

Wolverhampton City Council spokesman Gulraj Kular put the recent problem down to increased use because of the Easter holidays.

Queue at the site in Shaw Road, Bushbury

Carillion link to boost jobs

AN agreement between the University of Wolverhampton and Carillion will help improve education and job prospects in the city, bosses say.

The agreement could see the two organisations jointly bid for tenders or grants, while links will also be forged on internships and work placements.

Carillion, based in Salop Street, employs 40,000 people worldwide with established businesses in the UK, Canada, the Middle East and North Africa.

Adam Green, boss of Carillion ConstructionServices, said: "As neighbours and as two of the largest employers in Wolverhampton and the wider Black Country, this collaboration will not only benefit both parties but also the wider community in which we work and live

It will support the aspirations of the city in terms of strategic regeneration and investment."

"Carillion is firmly behind the vision of supporting, promoting and improving standards of educational delivery.The agreement between Carillion and the university is to run for four

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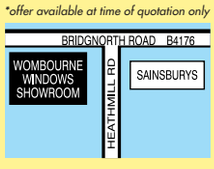

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Master Donald carves out triple athletics success

AN amateur athlete in his 50s struck gold at the European Masters Athletics Championship bringing not one but three medals back to the Black Country.

Donald Brown, from Parkfields, returned from the competition in Torun, Poland with a bronze, silver and gold medal. Donald, aged 52, claimed gold in the 60m hurdles, silver in the 4 x 200m relay and bronze in the 60m sprint event at the championships, for athletes over the age of 35.

His performance in the 60m hurdles, which saw him complete the challenge in 8.66 seconds before punching the air with delight, was a personal best and sees him ranked as the fastest in the world in his age category, of 50-54, this year.

Donald grew up in Wolverhampton, firstly educated at Parkfields High School before going to the University of Wolverhampton to study sculpture making.

He has been a member of both Wolverhampton and Bilston Athletics Club and the Royal Sutton Coldfield Athletics Club. In 1990, aged 27, he left Wolverhampton to live in Manchester.

Passions

After seven years in Manchester,he packed up and moved to the United States. It was here that his two main passions, sculpting and athletics, came together.

While forging a successful career as a sculptor, Donald was introduced to the concept of the Masters Championships.

Donald's work as a sculptor is also influenced by sport. To see his work, visit www.theglobalgallery.org

Holding his medals from the European Masters Athletics Championships is Donald Brown

Care home call for 'dementia friends'

CARE home workers are encouraging people in Wolverhampton to join them as 'dementia friends'.

All 40 staff at Nelson Mandela House, in Pendeford, have completed information sessions to make them more aware of, and responsive to, the needs of people living with dementia and their families.

Karen Atkins, manager of the Wolverhampton City Council-run unit, said: "Becoming Dementia Friends has given our staff a greater understanding of how they can make life better for people with dementia, both when they are with us here at Nelson Mandela House and when they are back home in the community.

"It has made our workers think more about the little things they can do to make a big difference to our service users.

"The information sessions also highlight some of the other things people can do to help others with dementia to carry on going about their daily lives."

For more information visit www.dementiafriends.org.uk or contact Jane James on 07714 139406

University £12m for training of engineers

MORE than £12 million is being spent by University of Wolverhampton bosses to train the next generation of engineers.

The multi-million pound investment will see the university turn one of its campuses into a centre of excellence. The centre will include a Formula One wind tunnel. Most of the cash will be spent at the university's Telford Innovation Campus.

By Tim Spiers

But a six-figure sum will also go on improving chemical engineering facilities at its city centre campus in Wolverhampton.

Experts estimate there will be a shortfall of around 200,000 qualified engineers across the country by 2020.

The new centre of excellence at the Innovation Campus in Telford will help provide a skilled workforce for major employers like JLR, which is employing 1,400 people at its i54 car engine plant.

Specialist

A Formula One specification wind tunnel, engine test facilities, 3D printing facilities and laboratories will be added at the Telford campus.

Students will also be able to study specialist electronics and telecommunications.

The investment is part of an expansion of the University of Wolverhampton's presence in Telford.

It is also launching a new town centre campus at Southwater, which will start its first lectures soon in partnership with Telford College of Arts and Technology.

The majority of the £12m investment into Priorslee will go into transforming part of the Telford campus and providing specialist equipment for new courses.

Professor Ian Oakes, deputy vice-chancellor, said: "In the UK it is estimated that there will be a shortfall of around 200,000 qualified engineers by 2020.

Enhanced

"This investment into creating enhanced provision and expanded facilities demonstrates our commitment to bridging that gap and producing the next generation of skilled engineers.

"The new course offering, combined with activity based learning and live industrial project work will provide a real focus on creativity and employability."

The university bought its own Renault-powered Formula One car.

It recently got its first test run, driven by a professional driver and supported by a team of engineering staff and students.

Supermarket plan for ex-gangland pub

A FORMER gangland pub in Wolverhampton will be transformed into a supermarket under new plans.

The old Waggon & Horses site on Cannock Road is set for a new lease of life.

Casper Stores Limited, a family-run company that sells Eastern European Foods, has applied to turn the site into a shop, creating nine jobs. It also wanted to build a training centre across the road.

The Waggon & Horses was closed by Wolverhampton City Council in 2009 due to crime and safety fears and the site transformed into three retail units. It was the first pub in the West Midlands to be closed by a local authority.

Back in 2008, a man was shot three times inside and residents described it as 'like living next to a warzone'.

Casper Stores said it wanted the Waggon & Horses site to become its flagship store.

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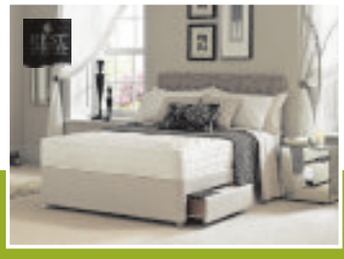

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Pit Bank wenches, Blue Fly Pit, Wednesbury, circa 1890

Oldbury branch of Palethorpes butchers circa 1900

Workers at Palethorpes sausage factory, in Tipton, 1900

Chainmakers pictured circa 1910

Rich industrial heritage is laid bare at exhibition

THE full extent of the Black Country's rich industrial heritage is laid bare in a stunning new exhibition at the Black Country Living Museum.

From the glow of blast furnaces, to a bustling Walsall High Street at the turn of the century, the region's past is brought to the fore at the entrance to the popular Dudley attraction.

The revamped reception features a series of giant images depicting Black Country life through the ages, culminating with a five-minute film in a new 'cinema pod'.

Pipes

There are images of coal-blackened men with pipes hanging from their mouths, children playing in the streets between back-to-backs and of women working at mines. The project has taken three months to complete and replaces the attraction's previous 'Hall of Fame' exhibition.

The stunning pictures offer visitors a snapshot of life in the region from the 18th century onwards. They include a print by renowned artist and poet Edwin Butler Bayliss, whose paintings depict the Black Country as a smoke-filled engineering heartland.

Many of the region's famous businesses are also represented. They include a branch of Palethorpes butchers in Oldbury, complete with a large advertisement proudly boasting: 'Best Pork Goods'. The inner workings of the Palethorpes sausage factory in Tipton are shown in another image.

Workers at Wednesbury's famous Spear and Jackson factory in the 1960s are shown in another exhibit, while a stunning monochrome image shows a line of staff at the Revo metal polishing shop in Tipton.

The sprawling Guy Motors Fallings Park Works in Wolverhampton is also displayed.

Another image on display illustrates how the region's industrial exploits were lauded far beyond the boundaries of the Black Country. It shows a picture from the Illustrated London News in 1866 depicting dozens of smokestacks billowing over a landscape packed with factories.

But its not all grim and industrial, with one picture showing Wolverhampton's beautifully landscaped West Park at its finest, as mothers stroll alongside the pond with their babies in prams.

Walsall's busy High Street is depicted in a photograph taken in 1908, complete with the imposing figure of St Matthew's Church looming in the background.

Traditional

There's also a nod to how the BCLM has preserved the traditional industrial practices of the area.

Last November the museum was given permission for a new school entrance intended to cut queues. The building will be near the new Dudley Archives. For more information on the BCLM and details of events visit bclm.co.uk/

*To watch the video visit nativemonster.com

MEMORY LANE

By Peter Madeley

Heavy and dirty work – Men at work at Noah Hingley & Sons, Netherton in 1954

Back breaking – pushing coal home in the 1950s

Guy Motors, Fallings Park Works, Wolverhampton pictured in the 1920s

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Sad death of ex-members announced

Kingswinford TWG

CHAIRMAN Enid Fennell welcomed visitor Wendy Jacobs to the April meeting at the community centre in High Street. Sadly, she announced the deaths of two former members.

On a happier note, members were told that Brenda Adkins was now back at home after her stay in hospital and was doing well. Joyce Major was presented with a beautiful bouquet to mark her special wedding anniversary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, approved and duly signed.

Husbands will be welcome this month as there will be a talk by Chris Smith about the trenches in the First World War.

Trips are planned for Moreton in Marsh and Bourton on the Water in July and a canal boat trip, possibly in September. Husbands and friends will be welcome to both.

The Federation is organising 'A Day at the Races' in June in Wollaston, with fish and chips and tea and cakes by way of refreshments.

Alan Pace gave an interesting description of his climb to the roof of Africa, i.e. Kilimanjaro. This was illustrated with gorgeous photographs. He was thanked by Joyce Major.

Marion Allman and Brenda Greenaway won the raffle prizes. Joyce was thanked for providing the flowers, which she donated as an extra prize.

The next meeting will be on May 11 when there will a talk entitled I Don't Like Apple Pie.

Cheques presented to chosen charities

From left, chairman Julia Willett, Sue Wright and vice chairman Astrid van der Burgt

Brownhills Townswomen's Guild

AT the April meeting, held at the Memorial Hall, Lichfield Road, Brownhills, a cheque presentation was made to the group's chosen charities of the year.

Each group received £550.

Julia Willett, TG chairman, made the presentation to Sue Wright, Beaver Cub leader, who with other adults has been selected to take a group of Beaver Cubs to Tokyo, Japan in August for the Scouts World Jamboree. The children and their parents have been fundraising all year and we are pleased to support this worthwhile organisation.

Meanwhile, Astrid van der Burgt, vice chairman, accepted the cheque on behalf of Kate's "Free2Bee" charity which helps under-privileged children in Kenya.

For information on guild meetings ring Mary on 01543 360 890.

A woman's life in the Old Bill

Wombourne E TG

APRIL'S speaker was Cas or 'Bill' Bailey to her colleagues in the West Midlands Police Force.

Members were delighted by her memories of life as a WPc cadet and new police officer in the 1970s when it was definitely a male dominated profession.

She had survived the 'teasing' which now makes for many funny incidents often due to her naivety as a very young recruit.

Her portrayal of herself and others kept members' attention throughout. Next month will be the club's birthday bash.

There is a new programme for the coming year which includes many intriguing talk titles and trips/activities.

Anyone interested in joining the group can contact Mrs Whatmore on 01902 753795.

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Heartbreak as labour of love is grounded

A 22-YEAR labour of love by Black Country aircraft enthusiasts has been grounded due to a lack of space.

The six-strong team has spent tens of thousands of man hours lovingly building a full scale replica of the Balliol T2, the last type of aircraft constructed for the RAF by Boulton Paul at its factory at Pendeford, Wolverhampton.

But now the Boulton Paul Association, whose members have carried out the work, has been left homeless when so close to completing the epic project.

Cyril Plimmer, 87, helped launch the association after retiring from the firm where he became senior designer after joining, aged 14, in 1942.

Members of the Boulton Paul Association

Balliol replica while under construction

Catastrophic

He said: "It would be catastrophic if we cannot finish this. I started work at Boulton Paul straight from school and did a lot of drawing changes on the Balliol. Twenty two years later here we are poised to put the finishing touches to it. I will have completed my life's work when it is finished, but it would be heartbreaking to fall short when we are so near and yet so far from the finish."

Terry Herrington, another former employee on the project team, confessed: "Unless we can find alternative accommodation there is the possibility that the aircraft would have to be scrapped.".."

Building of the Balliol T2 started with the cockpit section of the plane that was constructed from parts of an original version of the aircraft found at a scrap yard.

Members of the Boulton Paul Association started the build in 1992 and completed much of the fuselage before giving priority to other projects. They returned to the Balliol in 2008 and have been working on it ever since but were unable to complete the project before being forced to vacate the site of their Heritage Project Museum at the former Boulton Paul factory in Wobaston Road when the company who bought the firm moved to new premises.

Members have been able to do some of the uncompleted tasks on the outer wings at the engineering workshops of Wednesfield Engineering Academy. But there was no room for the plane that is still in a hanger at RAF Cosford with no facilities and the hunt is on for a location to which it can be moved while the outer wings and control linkages are fixed. Contact either herrington@btinternet.com or cyrilplimmer.@hotmail.com

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Apartment block goes up for sale

A MULTI-MILLION pound apartment block in Bilston has gone up for sale.

The Old School Court in Broad Lanes will go under the hammer at an auction in July if it does not sell before then.

Marketer CPBigwood said the building is made up of 37 two-bedroom apartments and eight one-bedroom apartments.

They are asking for offers of more than £2.5 million for the whole block but there is the possibility it will be offered in smaller blocks or as individual apartments if it does not sell as a whole.

Other properties to be sold at the auction include the former George Gallager pub in Church Street in Brierley Hill. The pub, which suffered from an arson attack three years ago following closure, can be converted into four flats after a planning application was approved.

It is up for sale with a guide price of £40,000 to £50,000.

Tuning up for bargain

A JUMBLE sale is due to take place in Bilston tomorrow.

It will be held at Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church Hall, in Oxford Street.

Wolverhampton Orpheus Male Voice Choir supporters' group is organising the event.

Admission 20p. Doors will open at 12.30pm.

FOCUS ON BILSTON

Council bosses back BID to give £500k boost to town

COUNCIL bosses have approved a scheme that could generate £500,000 for Bilston over a five-year period.

Bosses said that they hope the Bilston Business Improvement District (BID) project will mirror the success the same project had in Wolverhampton city centre.

The BID involves getting business leaders in the town working together to improve it, in the hope that it will attract more people.

By Jordan Harris

At a cabinet meeting last week, the council agreed it would support plans to enter into a BID ballot on behalf of Bilston, with a decision to be made on whether it has been successful in the summer. If it goes through then £40,000 has been earmarked for the project in August.

Influence

Councillor Peter Bilson, the city's economy boss, said: "This is good news for people and businesses in Bilston.

"It follows on from the huge success we have had in Wolverhampton and we will work on this in a similar way to how we did for our city centre. If we are successful in making Bilston a Business Improvement District, it will result in a £500,000 investment over five years into the town.

"The people who run businesses in Bilston will have a stronger influence on what they want to see in their town centre, which will be great for local people too."

The Robin 2 Club, the Sir Henry Newbolt Wetherspoon pub, Jennings Funeral Directors and Bilston Motor Spares are among the businesses involved in Bilston's plans. They have formed a task group which also includes CeX, Cafe Metro, Coffee Express and Wolverhampton Homes.

Town centre marketing, parking, more CCTV and cleaner streets are among the group's main priorities.

Decisions will be made by task group members, who have been in discussions since October last year.

The Wolverhampton BID became the first in the Black Country when it was launched last month.

Sabi Boffey received a telegram from the Queen

It's ton-up party time for Sabi

BORN and bred in Bilston, Sabi Boffey celebrated her 100th birthday with 90 of her friends and family.

Sabi, who has lived and worked in the town all of her life, was greeted by them at Bilston Conservative Club, where a surprise party had been arranged.

Sabi, who celebrated her birthday on April 15 and received a telegram from Her Majesty, worked at Bilston Town Hall and Perrins Coal Yard in Bilston.

Her only son, John Colley, 68, said she never went without work to ensure he would be provided for after his father, William Colley, died when John was 16.

Eight years after William's passing, Sabi remarried. She and her second husband, Ted Boffey, were together for 25 years before he died of cancer.

Sabi has three grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Cum on and celebrate Slade sound

A DAY of celebrating one of the Black Country's most famous musical exports will take place later this month.

A Slade convention on Saturday, starting with an excursion around the area visiting places of interest relevant to the band's history will be conducted by Dave Kemp, who runs a fan site dedicated to the group, will take place on April 25.

The afternoon will also feature a showing of the film Slade In Flames, rare videos from the bands history, a quiz, memorabilia and a special guest appearance from drummer Don Powell.

As well as this, Bilston's Robin 2 will host a gig of the night, featuring tribute band Slyde, local band 4Q and Danny Glam.

The event has been organised to celebrate 40 years since the release of Slade In Flames.

Black Grape's reunion tour

FORMER Happy Mondays singer Shaun Ryder is to perform at the Robin 2 in the summer.

His band Black Grape will be in action there on June 10. Black Grape was formed in 1993 by Ryder and old Happy Mondays band mate Bez.

The concert is part of a reunion tour to coincide with 20 years of the It's Great when your Straight album, a UK number one. Tickets are £22 in advance and £25 on the door.

Barry and Sylvia Taylor, from Bushbury, celebrate their diamond wedding

Love at first sight lasted 60 years

IT was love at first sight for a Wolverhampton couple who have just celebrated 60 years of marriage

Barry and Sylvia Taylor, from Primrose Avenue, Bushbury, first met in 1951 through Sylvia's brother, who was serving in the army alongside Barry in Italy.

Lucky

Both having grown up locally, they married at St Mary's Church, Bushbury on March 12, 1955.

Mrs Taylor, aged 80, said: "Barry had grown up in Whitmore Reans and I came from Bushbury. My brother, Ray, became friends with Barry whilst they were serving in the army, and they stayed friends ever since, so that's how he introduced us. Barry said it was love at first sight when we met."

"I think the secret to a happy marriage is to just give and take a lot. Barry has always been a bit of a romantic in the things he says and I'll just laugh.

The Taylors have two daughters, Susan, 58, and Cheryl, 53, and three grandsons Anthony, 29, and Jordan and Ashley, both 17.

Mr Taylor, 83, worked at Banks's Brewery in Wolverhampton for more than 45 years.

Mrs Taylor added: "We have been extremely lucky to have a beautiful family.

"Our happiest moment together has to have been when the girls were born and of course the birth of our first grandchild,

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Stu throws his weight behind charity

Stu Goldcrusher, with key account co-ordinator Amy Johnson, and school charity fundraiser Lisa Needham

HE'S lifted Ant and Dec on live TV, had thousands of hits on the internet and even received letters from royals.

And now Britain's Got Talent star Stuart 'Goldcrusher' Goldsmith is offering his strongman services in aid of children's charity Promise Dreams.

Goldcrusher appeared on Britain's Got Talent back in 2008 as a strong man act, picking up Ant and Dec on his bar. He said: "I wanted to throw my weight behind Promise Dreams and support them. If anybody wants to set up a show for the charity or do a fund-raising event, I'll happily turn up as a guest star.

"They are a deserving charity and I'm glad to be able to help others"

Promise Dreams was set up in 2001 to make dreams come true for seriously and terminally-ill children and their families across the UK.

Mr Goldsmith met with staff at the charity's shop in Wolverhampton with his unique weightlifting bar. Nicky Rowley, dreams co-ordinator, said: "Anything we can do is fantastic. Stuart has kindly offered his services to us which we are really greatly for. Promise Dreams grants dreams for seriously-ill children so the money we receive is really important.

For more information on the different charity fundraising events go to wwwpromisedreams.co.uk or call 01902 212451.

Record sales of £1.3bn for Beatties' owner

FASHION brands like Biba, Linea and Criminal have helped department store chain House of Fraser - owner of Wolverhampton's Beatties - hit a record sales figure of £1.3 billion in the last year.

Stylish new fashions for both men and women have boosted sales both online and at the chain's 59 stores around the UK.

Surged

As a result of record sales, up 5.8 per cent, House of Fraser has delivered record gross profits of £460.2 million for its new Chinese owners, up £29.6m on the previous year.

In-store sales are up 2.2 per cent, while online sales have surged 32 per cent and now make up more than 15 per cent of the total.

House of Fraser is planning further improvements to its website and delivery service as it gears up to launch online in China and other international markets such as Australia.

And things are still moving in the right direction for House of Fraser, with sales up 6.5 per cent over the last 11 weeks.

Chief executive Nigel Oddy said: "We are pleased to report another year of record sales and gross profit and a further improvement in the group's earnings.

"Our online business has performed exceptionally strongly and has substantial future potential.

"The web store has been the largest single store in terms of sales for the last three years and, for the first time this year, it has become the most profitable store in the group.

"We are very excited by the future as we embark on the next phase of growth both in the UK and internationally."

House of Fraser, bought by Nanjing-based Sanpower for £480 million last year, is planning to open three new Chinese stores next year as it expands overseas. More stores are also planned in the Middle East.

Back home in the UK it is planning a revamp of six more stores as part of a rolling programme of store upgrades. And the work is paying off; improvements to the House of Fraser store in Bath Group have driven sales growth of 30 per cent.

And, while chains such as Debenhams and Marks & Spencer are working hard to get their fashion lines right, House of Fraser has steadily built sales.

Styles

Analysts feel House of Fraser is in close touch with what its customers want, and its house brands, such as Linea and Biba in womenswear and Criminal and New & Lingwood in menswear, have performed particularly well.

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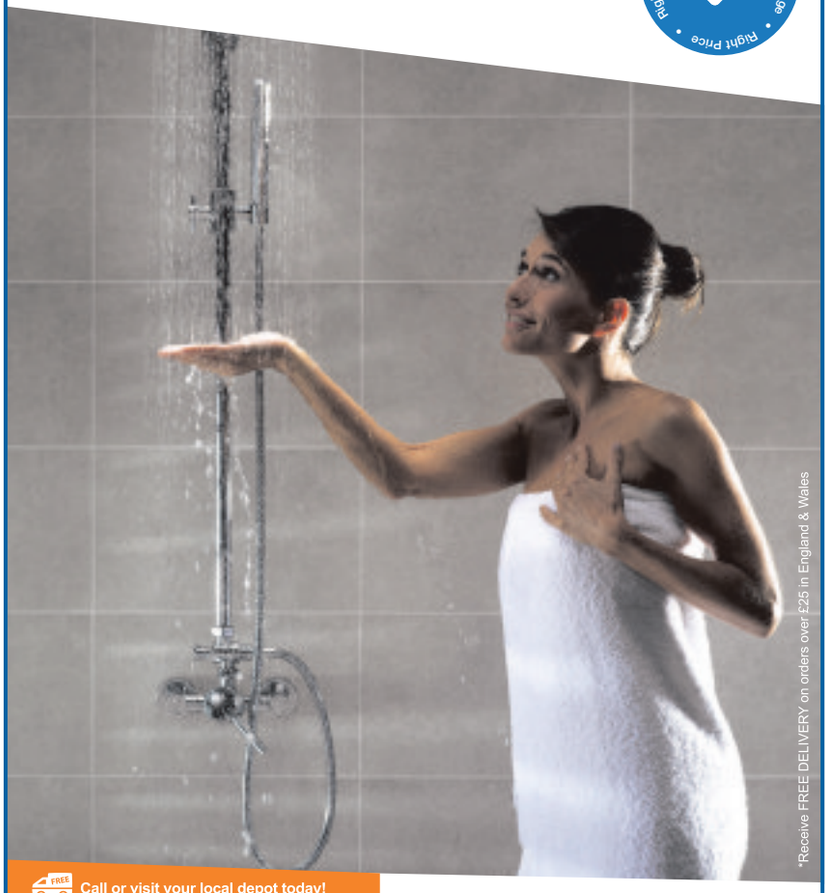

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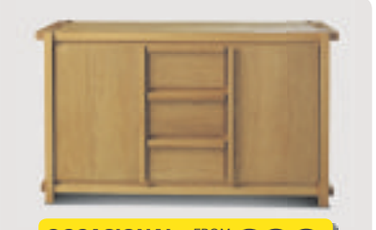

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Marathon the purrfect way to aid charity funds

A BILSTON teacher is hoping to raise hundreds of pounds for an animal charity by taking part in the London Marathon.

Rachael Green, aged 26, who teaches PE at Moseley Park School, is taking on the 26.2 mile challenge on Sunday in aid of veterinary charity PDSA.

The PDSA cares for thousands of pets in the Black Country and other parts of the West Midlands at its Pet Hospitals in Aston, Quinton and Wolverhampton.

Rachael, who lives in Quinton, has a gruelling training programme in place to make sure she crosses the finish line within her target time of three hours 20 minutes and hopes local animal lovers will support her marathon effort.

"I'm running five days a week and hitting the gym three times," she said. I also kickbox and play football twice a week.

"I've competed in endurance events before and have run a couple of marathons, but this is the first time I've run the London Marathon and I'm really excited to be taking part."

Animal lover Rachael, who has two cats of her own, is hoping to raise £1,900 for PDSA. Anyone wishing to donate can do so online at www.justgiving.com/Miss-R-Green

PE teacher Rachael Green is taking on the marathon challenge in aid of veterinary charity PDSA

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ENTREPRENEURS looking to start their own business can get 12 months free access to a start-up programme run by a charity.

Outset Online, set up by the Outset Foundation charity, guides people through the process from initiating and refining an idea, to understanding a market audience and competition and helping firms with marketing.

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Bev Hurley, founder of the Outset service and a member of The Outset Foundation's advisory committee, said: "The Outset Foundation is dedicated to empowering people to make positive changes in their lives, and we're delighted that we can now support Wolverhampton residents wanting to seize the opportunity to become their own boss."

To register go to www.outsetwolverhampton.co.uk

Scrapheap alert over delays to M6 work

THE £65 million overhaul of the M6 Junction 10 island faces the scrapheap if work does not start within five years.

A 2020 deadline has been placed on the project, which aims to improve one of the busiest motorway junctions in the country.

The aim is to cut down on the chronic congestion that cripples the island and motorway every day, improving traffic flow by doubling the number of lanes and building improved bridges.

By Craig Hughes

However, it has emerged that if the 2020/21 deadline isn't hit, the project will be frozen and traffic jams 'exacerbate' in the future.

Walsall Council highways bosses have come out fighting, promising that the ambitious project will go ahead as planned and be completed by 2020.

Widened

Under the initial plans, lanes going over the motorway will increase from two to four with the bridges rebuilt.

The M6 slip roads will be widened along with improvements to the Wolverhampton Road and Bloxwich Lane junction. There will also be some modification work to the Black Country Route.

In a planning application document, Rachel Telfer, senior transport planner at the council, has warned of the potential impact on work not starting.

It is currently hoped work will get under way in 2017/18.

She says: "Currently the junction operates beyond its design capacity - the project seeks to address this issue by increasing the width of the bridge, thus also increasing the number of lanes around the circulatory carriageway.

"Replacing the existing structures not only removes the requirement for Highways England to undertake, within approximately the next five years, planned maintenance at J10, and simultaneously allows for capacity improvements to be made.

Inadequate

"Should the council, within that timeframe, be unable to deliver this project, this will lead to intervention by Highways England to replace the existing structures and therefore forgo the opportunity to increase the junction capacity.

"This would, in effect, 'freeze' the capacity of the junction at its current inadequate level, with the likely result being to exacerbate congestion and air quality issues in the future."

The junction, at the heart of the Black Country's traffic network gets clogged up during peak periods.

Youth drama group analyses bullying

A YOUNG drama group has used its role playing skills to analyse the effects of bullying.

The Masquerades Key Stage One Drama Club based in Wolverhampton has recently investigated the topic of bullying from the perspective of the victim and the bully at their sessions.

Through drama and role play, the group has been able to gain an understanding of the emotional and physical impact of bullying and how it can impact negatively on a victim's confidence.

Stacey Price, who runs the classes, said: "The main of aim of the project was to understand the reasons why some people may feel to need to bully others as a way raise their own self esteem and how they can deflect their own issues by teasing others."

To find out more contact Stacey Price on 07902 033729 or email stacey@masqueradesentertainment.co.uk

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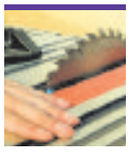

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Students learn of hero in poignant Great War tour

PUPILS from Darlaston's secondary school paid an emotional visit to Great War battlefields – and learned about the fate of a Black Country war hero.

Two Grace Academy pupils, Aaron Noad and Nathan Ankritt, toured Belgium and northern France as part of their history studies – and have now spoken of their poignant visit.

Among the topics at the Herbert's Park Road school was the life and times of Darlaston's Cpl Thomas Horton, aged 32, who was killed in action on October 26, 1917 during the Second Battle of Passchendaele.

The schoolboys visited his memorial at Tyne Cot Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery, in Ypres, Belgium and are now trying to track down his living relatives to tell them what they have found out.

Aaron Noad and Nathan Ankritt discover Cpl Horton's name

Honoured

Nathan said: "It was an extremely emotional and thought provoking trip and one that I will never forget."

"I feel honoured to have been chosen to represent my local area."

The First World War Centenary Battlefield Tours Programme was set up to help teachers and children to develop a deeper understanding of the 1914-18 conflict.

Grace Academy history teacher Andrew Reilly, who accompanied the pupils, said: "The centenary project has provided students and teachers with a wonderful and perhaps once in a lifetime opportunity.

"Many students or staff may never return to these places, others may make pilgrimages with their families.

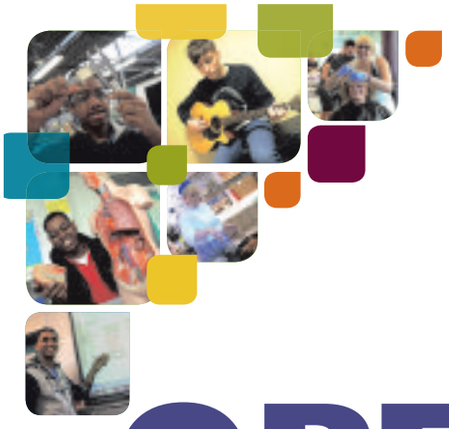
"The act of remembrance is just as important for people to make a hundred years on to realise the loss and tragedy that war can bring and the effect on a nation. This trip re-ignited the message of remembrance for me and I hope it will inspire the next generation to continue to honour our war dead and to help them ensure that this scale of conflict never recurs."

The boys were among a group of 16 schools on the four-day visit to the Western Front organised by University College London and the Institute of Education.

They attended The Last Post Ceremony in Ypres, visited museums, battlefield sites, memorials and the Thiepval Memorial in the Somme, France.

Nathan and Aaron will also be participating in the Legacy 110 programme that encourages students to share their experiences via community projects such as a study of a local soldier, the role played by women, the contribution of Commonwealth forces, or even the impact upon sports such as football and rugby.

In return pupils will receive certificates and badges. The best projects will receive national recognition through the First World War Centenary Battlefield Tours Programme website and special events designed to celebrate their achievements. The tours are funded by the Department for Education and the Department for Communities and Local Government.



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Swimmers take a dip on wild side

Wild swimming in lakes and rivers is growing in popularity, CHARLIE BENTON reports

Come on in the water's fine — swimmers Sarah and Martyn

FOR many of us a dip in UK waters – even at the height of summer – is a distinctly chilly affair.

So the idea of splashing around in lakes and rivers all year round – well, that's just plain crazy, right? It seems the answer is no.

While wild swimming – outdoor swimming, whatever the weather – sounds like utter madness to the uninitiated, it is a sport which is growing in popularity with 500 fans in Shropshire and the West Midlands alone. Sarah Lewis, of Halesowen, started the Midland Inland Swimming group six years ago. Now it has more than 400 members who meet regularly at Swan Pool in Sandwell Valley.

Sarah discovered wild swimming after growing tired of the chlorine and overcrowding in public swimming baths. The 45-year-old said: "I have always been a swimming fan and have been a member of indoor groups previously. But about six years ago I discovered outdoor swimming and just got hooked."

Sarah decided to set up the Midland Inland Swimming group in 2009. It now has members ranging in age from eight to 80.

"It is growing in popularity very quickly. I think it is due to people being turned off from swimming baths for whatever reason, whether it is the temperature of the pool, the constant turning at the end of the lanes or the chlorine. And once you have started it is really addictive."

Sarah said she was unaware of outdoor swimming until reading about it on the internet.

"I thought it was a really nice idea and something a little different. I tried it and soon I was addicted."

Sarah, who is a manager at kitchen manufacturer Pennwood Midlands, says outdoor swimming has also become something of a family affair. Her 12-year-old son Thomas often joins her or he is aboard one of the kayaks which accompanies the swimmers for safety.

Shock

Sarah's partner Ian Taylor also regularly mans one of the kayaks during events. She says the coldest water she has ever swam in was four degrees celsius.

"I have to admit I was not in the water very long that time. It was probably only around four minutes," she said.

She favours edging into the water to allow her body to acclimatise to the drop in temperature.

"Obviously, when you first enter cold water there is an initial shock so I think getting into the water more slowly is the best way to do it. However, I know some taking part in competitive events do choose to just jump in."And we don't always swim in colder waters. Sometimes it can be as warm as 18 degrees celsius and, in those cases, you can stay in the water for a longer period of time."

Sarah Lewis and Martyn Bentley take the plunge at Swan Pool

Sandwell's beautiful Swan Pool is popular with wild swimmers

Sarah Lewis and Martyn Bentley in their wetsuits before going in

The only equipment needed is a wetsuit, which can be picked up for about £60 or less, and perhaps a flask for a nice hot cup of tea once you are out.

Sarah's favourite spots for river swims include the Severn and the Trent, as well as the Humber estuary in Hull. "We work closely with the Environment Agency to ensure the water is clean," she said. "I imagined the Humber to be quite dirty because of how popular it is with boaters but the water there is cleaner than it has been for more than 10 years."

She said as long as people are sensible, and know how to swim, outdoor swimming is safe and enjoyable – and has a great social side.

"I would urge people to come along and try it out. You see the world from a completely different viewpoint. You can get close to nature. There really is nothing like it."

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Diamond sisters who live just doors apart

THEY met on the same night at the same venue, married within two weeks of each other and now live just 10 doors apart.

Now, Florence and Gordon Poole and Lou and Derek Harding are marking their diamond wedding anniversaries, providing a double celebration in the family.

It all started in 1951 when sisters Florence, now 81, and Lou, 78, went for an evening out at St Paul's Dance Hall in Wolverhampton. Both ended up meeting their husbands to be at the same venue at exactly the same time.

The couples married within a week of each other four years later in 1955.

Florence and Gordon married at Wolverhampton's Registrar Office on March 26.

Lou and Derek then declared their vows at All Saints Church in Moxley just days later on April 2.

Blackpool

Both couples also have the same size family, each has got three children, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

In addition they live 10 houses from each other on Rowan Crescent in Bradmore, Wolverhampton.

Both also travel for a short stay to Blackpool every year to visit the iconic Tower and see their much-loved singer Daniel O'Donnell.

Florence's daughter Caroline Round, 55, said: "They have both never been apart, they do everything together including going on holiday.

"I think it is absolutely wonderful how both of the couples have stayed so close for such a long time.

"They both went to St Paul's Dance Hall on a night out and it all started from there.It's incredible because they all have the same things in common.

"It's such a lovely thing to see and be a part of."

Floss and Gordon Poole, and right, Lou and Derek Harding

Bluebell walk springs up

TETTENHALL College is preparing to open its vast grounds to the public for its popular spring Bluebell Walk.

The walk, which usually attracts hundreds of visitors, will take place on May 10 from 1-4pm.

Children will have a chance to encounter birds of prey and there will be face painting, craft stalls and a treasure hunt.

The school is undergoing a multi-million pound development scheme, retaining its traditional, historic buildings and woodlands, but adding new amenities, including sports facilities and updated boarding accommodation.

Headmaster David Williams said: "Our Bluebell Walk is an annual Tettenhall College tradition and is always extremely popular.

"We are lucky to have such a wonderful setting and this is a very special time of year. We look forward to welcoming the community for what promises to be a very enjoyable afternoon."

Anyone who would like to host their own craft stall should contact Penny Storey on 01902 751119.

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Shakes to sound of raw passion

ALBUM REVIEWS

By Leon Burakowski

THE torch bearers for Deep South blues, rock and soul, Alabama Shakes, keep it real with a distinctive second album, Sound & Color.

On it the band explore funky new directions and stretch themselves after making a stir in 2012 with their rock-fuelled debut Boys & Girls.

Singer and guitarist Britney Howard gives her most impassioned vocal performances so far as the band from Athens, Alabama, create a potent moonshine of funk, blues and swamp rock.

Highlights include Don't Wanna Fight with its edgy guitar plucking as Britney repeats the title with an almost hysterical intensity. She adopts a falsetto on the loose limbed funk of Future People as the songs builds to a crashing cacophony.

Gimme All Your Love is deep fried southern soul with a wail that should earn nods of approval from Robert Plant and Jack White. She shows a sweeter side on the wonky soul of Guess Who, complete with vibes and strings, while Shoegaze has a Rolling Stones swagger about it.

The ballad Miss You opens with the memorable couplet 'I'm gonna miss you and your Mickey Mouse tattoo' and explodes with raw passion. With a bare bones accompaniment and odd changes of tempo, Over My Head makes for a downbeat, delicate closer.

Sound & Colour is out on April 21 on ATO Records. Alabama Shakes play Birmingham O2 Academy on May 13, a gig that promises to be something rather special.

Sony's three-CD compilation **Synth Pop** is a feast of great music from the 1970s and 80s when synth was king and lots of people with odd haircuts used a keyboard rather than a guitar to craft some brilliant pop records. So Donna Summer's (and Giorgio Moroder's) hugely influential I Feel Love shares the limelight with Gary Numan, The Human League, Ultravox, Visage, New Order, Soft Cell, Yazoo and Art Of Noise. Depeche Mode, Bowie and Kraftwerk are glaring omissions whilst Spandau Ballet and Aztec Camera, good as they are, don't fit the brief.

The Alabama Shakes explore funky new directions on second album Sound & Color

Fans of Nick Cave or even Siouxsie Sioux can luxuriate in the mellow vocals of **Nadine Shah** on her second album, **Fast Food** (Apollo/R&S Records), with tracks that border upon goth cabaret. There's also a hint of gothic about **Strange Trails** by **Lord Huron** (Play It Again Sam), although these country and folk influenced guitar-driven songs revel in a reverb-drenched tumbleweed ghost town feel.

Songs like Dead Man's Hand and Meet Me In The Woods hint at dark deeds and these grim prairie tales have a certain allure when delivered by singer and songwriter Ben Schneider. You would find Frozen Pines on the jukebox in the Twin Peaks diner.

The 1960s family group **The Cowsills**, inspiration for The Partridge Family, had million-selling hits in their US homeland but remain virtually unknown in the UK.

Much of their output was twee but their self-titled 1967 album (reissued by Now Sounds) does have several fine examples of summer-of-love sunshine pop, particularly US top five hit The Rain, The Park And Other Things. The CD includes bonus tracks, mono versions and a 24-page booklet to bring 60s music fans up to speed with pop's answer to the Von Trapps.

Before **Demis Roussos** became associated with 1970s dinner parties thanks to such middle-of-the-Med hits as Forever And Ever and Mike Leigh's play Abigail's Party, he sang with Euro prog rockers Aphrodite's Child. His own concept album (reissued by RPM), **On The Greek Side Of My Mind**, is the link between the band and his solo career. It begins with Roussos spouting Lotus eater mumbo jumbo then exercising his helium tenor over Gregorian-like chants, before settling into a groove of psychedelic Grecian folk pop. We Shall Dance hints at the style of warbling that was to bring him fame.

The Young'uns are grounded in song

ALBUM REVIEWS

By Danny Farragher

The Young'uns
Another Man's Ground

EVERYTHING you need to know about the new album from the Young'uns is summed up in the short but sharp opening track, Jimmy Go Down To Your Uncles.

It's only three verses but like a cartoon strip in a newspaper it is a complete story about ordinary people doing the everyday things they do to survive, sung with razor sharp harmonies and with a cheeky style which is pretty much what the trio of Sean Cooney, David Eagle and Michael Hughes do better than anyone around at the moment.

They can be raucous, witty, cutting, incisive and thoughtful but they are never dull.

Benefits Street was one of the most controversial programmes of recent times so when a bunch of residents in Stockton chased the film crew from their road it was perfect fodder for Cooney and Eagle to work their magic on the story.

Another song drawn from recent real life events is The Streets of Lahore which tells the story of Farzana Parveen who was murdered by her family under the label of an honour killing. Cooney and the boys give it suitable gravitas.

The Young'uns are one of those bands which is steeped in tradition without being shackled by it and as a three-part harmony band are probably unrivalled on the folk scene at the moment. Another Man's Ground is out on April 27.

The India Electric Company
The Girl I Left Behind Me

The Young'uns who are Sean Cooney, Michael Hughes and David Eagle

Almost like the Doppler effect this album from migrant Devoners Cole Stacey and Joseph O'Keefe, collectively the India Electric Company, comes at you from the distance like a train you are waiting for at a station.

All you have to do is jump on board and enjoy the ride the duo take you on as they open up their musical journey.

To stretch the analogy a little more, as you pass through the carriages of the IEC express you see each one is decked out in a different style as the duo present their musical smorgasbord.

Opener, Lost in Translation, has Stacey's soft and breathy delivery coming in over the top of the galloping percussion and pizzicato strings. It has more than a passing resemblance to Elvis' Mystery Train.

Strangely enough for Beirut they move into a more European sound. The duo seem to be playing with sounds almost as if they are trying to create graffiti art using music. It's undeniable Stacey & O'Keefe are fantastic at creating multi-stranded and layered songs and music. They go for yet another approach for the ballad Dreams which has the feel of a track from Massive Attack.

Whether folk purists will take to it remains to be seen but as an album which seems to want to bridge several genres it's very clever.

Merry Hell
The Ghost In Our House
(and other stories)

If you are a fan of folk rock then it's your birthday.

Merry Hell, created in the North West, is a band made of excellent musicians who populate their songs with intriguing lyrics. Who would have thought you would find Captain America, Star Trek's Scotty and hanging from the gallows in the same song?

The Baker's Daughter is undoubtedly the song which gives MH an identity. Once again the lyrics are sharp, witty and Virginia and Andrew Kettle throw them out and knead them into shape like the subject of the song.

MH are essentially a live band, but this will give you more than a flavour of their skill and liveliness and should spur you on to see them on stage.

fast theticket

Rebecca

Classic on Brum stage – Page 29

Blues dude

Seasick Steve gig preview – Page 29

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Freddie Starr

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Robin 2, Bilston
The madcap comedy legend that is Freddie Starr is once again thrilling UK audiences with a brand new hilarious show which he brings to the Robin 2 in Bilston this weekend.
Visit **www.therobin.co.uk**

Olly Murs

Sun, Mon, Tues, 8pm
Barclaycard Arena, B'ham
Armed with new album 'Never Been Better', which includes the swaggering first single 'Wrapped Up', Olly Murs is taking up residence in Birmingham for three nights.
Visit **www.barclaycardarena.co.uk**

Slade Convention

Saturday, from 12pm
Robin 2, Bilston
Head to the Robin 2 this weekend for a celebration of all things Slade. The convention marks the 40th anniversary of the release of seminal film Slade In Flame.
Visit **www.therobin.co.uk**

Noah Stewart

Saturday, 8pm
Town Hall, B'ham
Noah Stewart, the dashing young Harlem tenor, is one of international opera's most talked about singers. He returns to the UK and the Midlands with a sensational new show.
Visit **www.thsh.co.uk**

ROCK & POP

Olly Murs
Sun, Mon, Tue at 8pm, £33.89 - £62.58
Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham, B1 2PZ.
Call 0121 780 4141

Slade Convention
Saturday at 12pm, £9 - £28
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Band Of Friends featuring Gerry McAvoy
Friday at 7.30pm, £15 - £16
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Higher-On-Maiden + Saxonised
Thu at 7.30pm, £8 - £10
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Calabrese
Thu at 7pm, £6.60
The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton, WV1 1HP.
Call 01902 552106

Von Hertzen Brothers
Saturday at 7pm, £13.20
The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton, WV1 1HP.
Call 01902 552106

The Smyths
Friday at 6.30pm, £13.50
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Future Rock Stars 2015
Sun at 4pm, £10 - £10.50
Artrix Arts Centre, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ. Call 01527 577330

Mike + the Mechanics
Mon at 7.30pm, £32 - £36
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

MHA Talent Presents Shawn Smith
Sun at 7.30pm, £16
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

The Jack Ratts
Saturday at 7.30pm, Free
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB.
Call 01384 374410

Man Overboard
Wed at 7pm, £8.80
The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton, WV1 1HP.
Call 01902 552106

A Black Country night out
Tue at 7.30pm, £15 - £17
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

The Jar Family
Saturday at 8pm, £6.50 - £13
Lichfield Guildhall, WS13 6LU.
Call 01543 262223

Black
Wed at 8pm, £15
Artrix Arts Centre, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ. Call 01527 577330

White House Cancer Charity Event
Sun at 7.30pm,
Katie Fitzgerald's, Wollaston, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB.
Call 01384 374410

John McCullagh
Saturday at 8pm, £8
Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton, WV1 4AN.
Call 01902 572090

The Kilkennys
Tue at 7.30pm, £17
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE.
Call 01543 578762

Chris Murray
Tue at 7.30pm, £4
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

FOLK & ACOUSTIC

Heidi Browne
Tue at 7.30pm, £8
Festival Drayton Centre, Market Drayton, TF9 3AX.
Call 01630 654444

Brewood Acoustic Club Singers' Night
Thu at 8pm, £2 (£1 singers)
Brewood Cricket Club, ST19 9HX.
Call 01902 850422

Julie Felix
Wed at 7.45pm, £11
Red Lion Folk Club, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7LY. Call 0121 472 4253

Common Folk: Singers' Night
Thu at 8.30pm, £1
Pelsall Cricket & Sports Club, Walsall, WV3 4BP.
Call 07910 632695

Seasick Steve – SOLD OUT
Wed at 7pm, £25.85
Wolverhampton Civic Hall, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

Anti-Capitalist Roadshow
Friday at 7.30pm, £10 - £15
Irish Centre, Digbeth, Birmingham, B12 0LN.
Call 0121 622 2314

RNB & SOUL

Kwabs
Saturday at 7pm, £10.00 Adv
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Jukebox and Bobby Sox
Saturday at 7.30pm, £16.50 - £17.50
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE.
Call 01543 578762

JAZZ & BLUES

Joe Longthorne
Friday at 7.30pm, £22.50
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE.
Call 01543 578762

Blues Caravan 2015
Wed at 7.30pm, £12 - £15
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

The Harp Live Jazz (April)
Sun at 12.30pm, Tue at 8.30pm, Free
The Harp Hotel, Albrighton, WV7 3JF. Call 01902 374381

CLASSICAL & OTHER MUSIC

Noah Stewart
Saturday at 8pm, £30
Town Hall Birmingham, B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

Birmingham St George's Day
Saturday at 6pm, £15
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Beyond Classical
Wed at 5.30pm, Free
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Cavalleria Rusticana
Saturday at 5.30pm, £10 - £26.50
Conquest Theatre, Bromyard, HR7 4DU.
Call 01885 488575

Czech Philharmonic perform Mahler
Friday at 7.30pm, £9.50 - £44
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

CBSO Family Concert
Sun at 2.30pm, £10
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Blake in Harmony
Wed at 7.30pm, £20
Lichfield Garrick Theatre and Studio, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

THEATRE

Dirty Dusting
Thu at 7.30pm, £20 - £21
Lichfield Garrick Theatre and Studio, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

That'll Be The Day
Friday at 7.30pm, £11 - £26.90
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

A Night Of Dirty Dancing
Thu at 7.30pm, £17 - £21
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE.
Call 01543 578762

Dirty Dancing
Thu at 7.30pm, £20 - £55
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB.
Call 0844 338 5000

The Bodyguard The Musical
Saturday, Wed at 2.30pm, Friday, Saturday, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu at 7.30pm, £18 - £49.50
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 573320

Shrek the Musical
Friday, Saturday at 7.30pm, Sun at 1pm, 5pm, Saturday at 2.30pm, £18.50 - £45
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB.
Call 0844 338 5000

The Producers
Friday, Saturday at 7.30pm, Saturday at 2.30pm, £15 - £41.40
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

Quercus
Saturday at 8pm, £16 - £18
Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE. Call 01902 321321

The Turn of the Screw
Friday, Saturday, Tue, Wed, Thu at 7.45pm, £7 - £11
Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham, B18 6AD.
Call 0121 212 2643

Two
Friday, Saturday at 7.30pm, £9 - £10.50
The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster, DY10 2RX.
Call 01562 743745

The Producers
Friday, Saturday at 7.30pm, Saturday at 2.30pm, £13.25 - £15.75
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

Poetry Slam
Tue at 7pm, £4.75 - £6.75
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

Feed The Beast
Friday, Saturday at 7.45pm, Saturday at 2.45pm, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu at 7.45pm, Thu at 2.45pm, £12 - £20
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Rebecca
Mon at 7pm, Tue, Wed, Thu at 7.30pm, Thu at 2pm, £13.50 - £35
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

The King and I
Friday, Saturday at 7.30pm, Saturday at 2.30pm, £10 - £18
Lichfield Garrick Theatre and Studio, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

In Praise of Love – Terence Rattigan
Friday, Saturday at 7.45pm, £7.75
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE.
Call 01527 65203

Palach
Friday at 2pm, 7.30pm, £5 - £8
The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham, B16 8AE.
Call 0121 643 5858

The Pirates of Penzance
Wed, Thu at 7.30pm, £7.50 - £15
The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham, B16 8AE.
Call 0121 643 5858

Manifest
Saturday at 7.30pm, £5 - £7.50
The Drum, Aston on Carrant, Birmingham, B6 4UU.
Call 0121 333 2400

Flying the Nest
Wed at 11.30am, 1.30pm, £5 - £8.50
Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE.
Call 01902 321321

5 Soldiers
Friday, Saturday at 7.30pm, Saturday at 2pm, £20
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP.
Call 0121 236 4455

DANCE

The 2015 Lichfield & Burntwood Schools Dance Festival
Tue at 7pm, £14
Lichfield Garrick Theatre and Studio, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

COMEDY

Freddie Starr
Sun at 7.30pm, £18 - £19
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Stewart Francis
Friday at 7pm, £17.50 - £20.35
The Wulfrun, Wolverhampton, WV1 3HH.
Call 01902 552106

Andy Parsons Live and Unleashed
Wed at 8pm, £15 - £15.75
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE.
Call 01527 65203

Dylan Moran: Off the Hook
Thu at 8pm, £26 - £27.90
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star

Time to dream of Manderley again

Jealous bride — Mrs de Winter (Imogen Sage) and Maxim de Winter (Tristan Sturrock) in Rebecca, pictures Steve Tanner

LAST night I dreamt I went to Manderley again... has gone down as one of the most famous opening lines, featured in Daphne du Maurier's 1938 novel and the film made by Alfred Hitchcock two years later, starring Joan Fontaine and Laurence Olivier.

The psychological drama set on a Cornish country estate tells of a bride living in the shadow of her husband's dead first wife. Following the mysterious death of the eponymous Rebecca, Maxim de Winter returns to Manderley with his young bride who finds herself consumed by jealousy when surrounded by memories of the glamorous Rebecca.

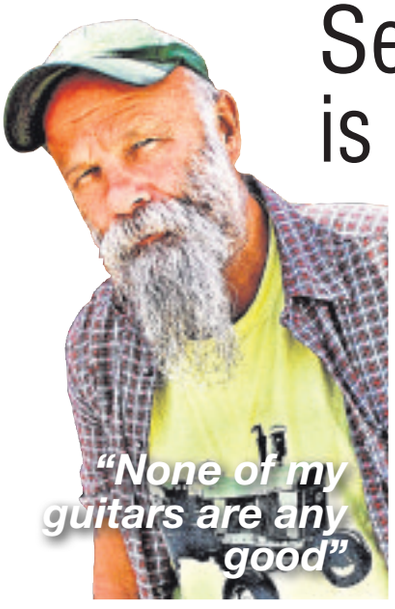
The new Mrs de Winter sets out to uncover the secrets lurking in Manderley mansion but finds herself in conflict with sinister housekeeper Mrs Danver, who is still fiercely devoted to her late mistress.

Emma Rice, the award-winning director of West End hit Brief Encounter, has adapted du Maurier's classic story for Kneehigh Theatre and it comes on tour to Birmingham Repertory Theatre from Monday to Saturday.

Mrs de Winter is played by Imogen Sage with Tristan Sturrock as Maxim and Emily Raymond as Mrs Danvers.

See www.birmingham-rep.co.uk for further details or call the box office on 0121 236 4455.

Seasick Steve is sonic surfing



SEVENTY something singer and guitarist Steven Wold — AKA Seasick Steve — has been a cowboy, a carnival worker, a hobo, a busker on the streets of Paris, and a record producer, since he left his California home to ride the rails as a 13-year-old in the mid 1950s.

No wonder then that the bearded bluesman is also one of music's great raconteurs.

At the last night of his latest tour, the audience at a full Wolverhampton Civic Hall on Wednesday, April 29, can expect some entertaining stories amid the fiercely played guitar — usually homemade from odd components that have included car hubcaps — and raw bones blues from the seven albums he has released since his 2004 debut Cheap brought him to the attention of a wider public.

The latest album came out this year, Sonic Soul Surfer, including hit track Summertime Boy. To hear it at it's best, Steve has been recommending audiences to buy the vinyl version. Steve will be joined by similarly hirsute drummer Dan Magnuson, playing tracks from the new album and old favourites such as Dog House Boogie .

He said: "There's no comfort when I play. None of my guitars are any good. It's like with that hubcap thing, the bridge is just an old engine bolt and if you bump it, it goes completely out of tune. So it's like this battle to get through the song and when I get to the end I'm so relieved."

For further details see www.wolvescivic.co.uk but tickets will be pretty hard to come by for the hobo turned music hero.

Harry and Paul on tour with legends

COMIC actors Harry Enfield and Paul Whitehouse will be performing in Wolverhampton on their first joint UK tour.

The pair will be presenting their classic comedy characters in the Civic Hall on November 1 as part of the Legends! tour. Tickets cost £32,50 and £37.50.

The tour will also see them perform at the Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham, on November 7.

Enfield said: "We've wanted to put our TV characters into a live tour for a while and now seems the right time to get together and do this. We've never performed them live before, so we're really looking forward to the tour."

Gloomy views to make you giggle

DOWNBEAT Irish comedian Dylan Moran, star of Black Books, brings his blend of cynicism and philosophy to Birmingham Symphony Hall on Thursday, April 30, as part of his massive Off The Hook tour.

Tickets cost £25 (plus fee), available from www.thsh.co.uk or on 0121 345 0600.

Other comedy highlights include Jimmy Carr at Wolverhampton Civic Hall on May 2, the same night that Stewart Lee is at the Symphony Hall. Tonight Andy Parsons is at the Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton, and tomorrow his Mock The Week colleague Stewart Francis plays the Wulfrun Hall.

Shot of rock at The Vaccines gig

THE Vaccines have announced a date in Wolverhampton as part of their latest tour.

The indie darlings recently played a string of sold-out gigs at intimate venues. They will now embark on a nationwide tour to coincide with third album English Graffiti, which is released next month.

The tour will begin in Blackpool on November 10 before Wolverhampton Civic Hall hosts them on November 17. Tickets are £27.50. Call 0870 320 7000.

The Vaccines shot to fame in 2011 with debut album What Did You Expect from The Vaccines? then Come of Age followed in 2012.

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Feel the heat with this chicken in Peri Peri sauce

Doughnut, burger, or try both together in this tasty challenge

By Pete Cashnore

A CURSORY glance at the menu of The Woodman in Bilbrook and one thing is readily apparent.

The influence of Man Vs Food has extended far enough that it's reached a sleepy little village on the Wolverhampton to Shrewsbury line.

Man Vs Food is an American cuisine show, in the loosest sense of the term. Its host Adam Richman tours the USA visiting what he's proud to call 'pig out spots' – diners and restaurants serving junk in the way that only Americans can do it; large, gooey and fried at least once.

Often the food looks amazing, sometimes it's horrific, but one constant is that every week Adam attempts one of his nation's many restaurant food challenges.

Which brings us to the Woodman Inn on a very busy Thursday night. Part of the Flaming Grill pub chain, it boasts not one, but three, food challenges. The most easily navigable is the Flaming Challenge Burger, which packs in two 12oz beefburgers, two breaded chicken breast fillets, spicy chilli beef, cheese slices, onion, crispy bacon, onion rings – and a double portion of chips.

The bold among you may favour the Trash Can Challenge, a giant rack of BBQ ribs, large cheese and bacon burger, chilli beef sundae, southern-fried chicken skewer, onion rings, corn, double portion of baked beans and a triple order of chips. Complete any of the challenges and you can get your photo on a Wall Of Fame.

Or, should you be completely insane, you can have one of the pub's rather excellent steaks served with ghost chilli sauce. This sauce typically registers more than one million of the Scoville Scale of chilli heat – that's 900 times hotter than Tabasco.

But I haven't come here for any of that. I'm here to sample one of the pub's other American-style innovations – the doughnut burger. Which is – steel yourselves now – a beefburger patty served in a glazed doughnut instead of a bread bun.

Oddity

It's sweet and savoury, but not as we know it. I must admit that I approached this oddity with some trepidation, so I decided to round out my meal with Cajun onion rings and chilli beef-topped cheesy chips. In the end, though, my chips came un-chillied and devoid of cheese. The bar manager suggested that I try my chips with the ghost chilli dip instead. In fact, he practically insisted I do. And so I did.

Elsewhere, my fellow diners decided on a super-sized version of fish and chips called The Codfather. It featured a battered cod fillet that clearly had a blue whale somewhere in its family lineage, a double portion of chips and peas; and half a chicken with Peri Peri sauce and chips.

So. What can I tell you about a doughnut burger? Well, my particular one was layered thus: half a glazed doughnut, tomato, lettuce, burger, cheese, bacon, burger, cheese, bacon, other half of glazed doughnut. The Cajun onion rings, a snip at just £1.49, were plentiful, and placed next to a pot of the hallowed ghost chilli dip. Well, I wasn't going ignore that invitation. And so I got an onion ring, and I dipped. Turns out that ghost chilli sauce is really hot.

As for the doughnut burger, taste-wise yes, it works. The sweetness of the doughnut wasn't a squillion miles away from a brioche bun, and everyone is serving up their meat in those nowadays.

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Fri 24 - Thur 30 April	MOMMY (15)
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Sat 25 April	TESTAMENT OF YOUTH (12A) 2pm
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Tues 28th April	GOD AT WORK
Wed 29th April	SOCIAL MEDIA SURGERY
Wed 29th April	WOLVERHAMPTON QUEEN'S ENGLISH LANGUAGE MEET-UP
Thurs 30th April	WOLVERHAMPTON ITALIAN SPEAKERS MEET UP
Mon 4th May	MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU - Sci Fi & Toy Fair, Posters, Close Encounters
Mon 4th May	FILM & TV QUIZ
Tues 5th May	FILM & TV QUIZ
Tues 5th May	THE ROYAL BALLET: LA FILLE MAL GARDÉE (12A)
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CHOICE

Harry Redknapp

Play to the Whistle (ITV, 9.15pm)
A League of Their Own has got a lot to answer for. As well as giving us Mo Farah's trademark 'Mobot' move, it's also arguably responsible for a recent rash of sports-based comedy panel shows, including last year's A Question of Sport: Super Saturday, and this offering from ITV. So, if one of this week's star guests, football manager Harry Redknapp wants some advice on how to handle the banter, he can always ask either his nephew, Play to the Whistle team captain Frank Lampard, or his son, League of Their Own regular Jamie. Also joining question master Holly Willoughby, umpire Seann Walsh and captain Bradley Walsh are The Last Leg's Alex Brooker and broadcaster Piers Morgan.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **10.10** World War One Remembered: Gallipoli. **12.05** BBC News; Weather. **12.15** Football Focus. **1.00** Paula Radcliffe: The Marathon and Me. **1.40** Live Snooker: The World Championship. The afternoon session on day eight at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield. **4.30** Final Score. **5.10 Film:** The Princess and the Frog. (2009) Disney animated musical fantasy.

6.40 BBC News.

6.50 Regional Programme.

6.55 Pointless Celebrities. Eight morning TV stars try to come up with the most obscure answers to win cash for their chosen charities. They are Good Morning Britain duo Kate Garraway and Richard Arnold, former This Morning presenter Fern Britton and The Wright Stuff's Matthew Wright, and four BBC Breakfast anchors past and present – Dermot Murnaghan, Natasha Kaplinsky, Charlie Stayt and Naga Munchetty. Alexander Armstrong is in charge, while Richard Osman is the man with the facts.

7.45 Atlantis. Pasiphae tries to force Ariadne to renounce the throne, and with Jason and Hercules powerless to help, Medusa and Pythagoras come up with a plan requiring an unimaginable sacrifice.

8.30 The National Lottery: In It to Win It. Dale Winton presents the quiz in which up to five contestants answer questions to scoop a big cash prize. Only those in the winners' row will have a chance of taking home the loot, so they will need to get all the answers right – as well as a little bit of luck on their side. Including the Lotto and Thunderball draws.

9.20 Casualty. Connie needs to prove her innocence in the Alfred case. Robyn helps two young lovers caught up in a house fire, while Lofty teaches a patient to have more self-worth.

10.10 BBC News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League clashes, including Manchester City v Aston Villa at the Etihad Stadium; National Lottery Update.

12.00 The Football League Show. **1.20 Film:** A Bronx Tale. (1993) **3.15** Weather for the Week Ahead. **3.20** BBC News.

BBC2

6.10 Film: The Crimson Wing: Mystery of the Flamingos. (2008) **7.20 Film:** Sword of Sherwood Forest. (1960) **8.40** Fred Dibnah's Magnificent Monuments. (R) **9.10** The Nature of Britain. (R) **10.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. **12.00** Richard Harris: Talking Pictures. **12.35 Film:** The Long and the Short and the Tall. (1960) Second World War drama, starring Laurence Harvey. **2.15** Flog It! (R) **3.00** Final Score. **4.30** Live Snooker: The World Championship. The afternoon session on day eight at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield. **5.30** World War One Remembered: Gallipoli Highlights.

6.30 Gardeners' World. As everything in the garden begins to shoot up, Monty Don uses his ornamental grasses to demonstrate how best to lift and divide perennials. Plus, a third trip to South Africa. (R)

7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. Jason Mohammad introduces coverage of the third and final session on day eight at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, where another two second-round matches are set to take place, including one to a conclusion, as the race to reach the quarter-finals continues. The commentary team includes Dennis Taylor and Terry Griffiths.

8.00 Dad's Army. Mainwaring and the platoon are assigned to guard a vital telephone line through the night, but wake to find an unexploded bomb caught in the wires. (R)

8.30 Gallipoli: When Murdoch Went to War. Docu-drama telling the story behind journalist Keith Murdoch's letter to the leaders of Australia and Great Britain in 1915 that exposed the realities of the Gallipoli campaign.

9.30 QI XL. Stephen Fry hosts an extended edition of the quiz, finding out what Sara Pascoe, Jack Whitehall, David Mitchell and Alan Davies know about such topics as knees and knockers. (R)

10.15 Film: Up in the Air. (2009) A corporate downsizing expert finds his emotionally detached lifestyle under threat from an executive with revolutionary ideas. Comedy drama, with George Clooney.

12.00 Snooker: The World Championship. **12.50** Snooker: World Championship Extra. **2.50** Sign Zone: Antiques Roadshow. (R) **3.50** The Truth About Fat. (R) **4.50** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.20** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.15** Sooty. (R) **7.30** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.35** Hulk and the Agents of Smash. **8.00** Thunderbirds Are Go. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **10.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **11.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.25** ITV News; Weather. **12.35** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **1.35** Doc Martin. (R) **2.35 Film:** Housesitter. (1992) Romantic comedy, starring Steve Martin and Goldie Hawn. **4.35** Tipping Point. (R) **5.35** Regional Programme. **5.45** ITV News; Weather.

6.00 New You've Been Framed! Yearbook. Harry Hill looks at a typical year in the life of a You've Been Framed! star, taking in all the major events in the calendar, from Pancake Day disasters to chaotic Christmases.

7.00 Ninja Warrior UK. Contenders from across the nation test their strength, speed and courage in the third heat of the obstacle-course challenge, all hoping to progress to the semi-finals.

8.00 Britain's Got Talent. Ant and Dec present the third audition show, as the judges – Simon Cowell, David Walliams, Amanda Holden and Alesha Dixon – hope to uncover more of the nation's talent. Queuing up to take the stage, acts of all ages and abilities are determined to prove they are worthy of the £250,000 cash prize and a slot at this year's Royal Variety Performance, but while some of them will be deserving, others will undoubtedly hear the dreaded sound of the red buzzers just seconds into their performance.

9.15 Play to the Whistle. Captains Bradley Walsh and Frank Lampard are joined by guests including Harry Redknapp, Alex Brooker and Piers Morgan. Holly Willoughby hosts the sports-based comedy panel show.

10.00 ITV News; Weather.

10.15 Film: Inside Man. (2006) A negotiator deals with a hostage crisis at a bank, but a political fixer is sent to make sure secrets in the vault stay hidden. Thriller, starring Denzel Washington.

12.35 Jackpot247. **3.00** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **3.40** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. **6.40** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.05** FIM Superbike World Championship. **7.30** The Grid. **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.30** Frasier. (R) **11.00** Frasier. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.30** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. (R) **1.25** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Sandown Park, Haydock Park and Ripon. **4.15** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.10** The Simpsons. (R) **5.45** The Simpsons. (R)

6.10 The Simpsons. Bart decides to steal a kiss from his crush at school after taking advice from Grampa, but the plan backfires. With the guest voices of Angela Bassett and Sarah Silverman. (R)

6.35 Channel 4 News.

7.00 For the Love of Cars. Life on Mars star Philip Glenister and renowned car designer Ant Anstead take another trip around the barns and lock-ups of Britain, returning classic motors to their former glory. They begin in Hertfordshire with an Aston Martin DBS – the model driven by George Lazenby in the Bond film On Her Majesty's Secret Service. Over 10 weeks, they complete the bare metal restoration before the vehicle is sold at auction, and Philip gets to experience Roger Moore's DBS from the cult 1970s show The Persuaders. (R)

8.00 The World's Most Extreme. The 10 most dangerous roads on the planet, featuring mayhem caught on camera in Russia, avalanches in the US and truck-driving nightmares in the Australian Outback. Previously seen on More4.

9.00 Film: Paul. (2011) An alien held captive in a top-secret American military base escapes and hides out in the van of two English comic-book geeks on a tour of UFO hotspots. The wisecracking extraterrestrial enlists the duo's help in getting back to his spaceship, but they are soon pursued by government agents and unwittingly become kidnappers. Sci-fi comedy, starring Simon Pegg.

11.05 Film: Role Models. (2008)

1.05 The Last Leg. (R) **2.00** Alan Carr: Chatty Man. (R) **2.55** Hollyoaks. (R) **5.00** Kirstie's Vintage Gems. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.35** Access. **10.45** Ice Road Truckers. (R) **11.40** Ice Road Truckers. (R) **12.35** Ice Road Truckers. (R) **1.35** Ice Road Truckers. (R) **2.30** Police Interceptors. (R) **3.30 Film:** Columbo: An Exercise in Fatality. (1974) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk and Robert Conrad. **5.30** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R)

6.25 Britain's Horror Homes. A woman from the Norfolk village of Happisburgh whose house had to be demolished after coastal erosion left it suspended in mid-air on the edge of a cliff. (R)

7.15 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. High Court enforcement officers Paul and Steve make an extraordinary discovery inside a locked bedroom, and immediately call for police back-up. Brian and Graham head to Swindon Town football club to recover a debt, while Paul and Ben have difficulty evicting a couple from a house in Kent after learning they have six children and nowhere else to go. (R)

8.15 5 News Weekend.

8.20 NCIS. Against his better judgement, Gibbs comes out of retirement to help Fornell and his daughter by reopening the case of an escaped convict who is putting their lives in danger. (R)

9.10 NCIS. A missing Navy lieutenant's car is found covered in blood, and the team discovers she had been profiling men to find the perfect partner. When further investigations reveal she had planned to attend a seminar at a local hotel, Ziva goes undercover in a bid to find out more. Meanwhile, Jenny makes Tony a secret offer. (R)

10.10 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. A car that used to belong to a murderer is being sold off at a convention dedicated to serial killer memorabilia when the body of an auction house employee is discovered inside.

11.05 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. Stabler and Tutuola link an artist's death to a similar murder – but another detective is assigned to the case and does all he can to exclude them from the investigation. (R)

12.00 SuperCasino. **3.10** Psychopath: The Devil's Disciple. (R) **4.00** Family Secrets & Lies. (R) **4.50** Make It Big. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes – Not in 3D **7.25** Top Gear **8.25** Don't Tell the Bride **9.25** Tatau **10.10** Happy Valley **11.10** Family Guy **12.40** Russell Howard's Good News **1.10** Tatau **1.50** Killer Magic **2.20** Some Girls **3.50** Close

BBC Four
7.00 Ice Age Giants **8.00** Wild China **9.00** Inspector Montalbano **10.55** The Kate Bush Story: Running Up That Hill **11.55** Kate Bush at the BBC **12.55** Top of the Pops: 1980 **1.30** Sounds of the Eighties **2.00** Let's Have a Party! The Piano Genius of Mrs Mills **3.00** Wild China **4.00** Close

ITV2
12.20 Britain's Got More Talent **1.25** Darcy Oake: Edge of Reality **2.25** Catchphrase **3.05** People Do the Funniest Things **4.05** Mr Bean **5.15 Film:** The Vow (2012) **7.25 Film:** Stormbreaker (2006) **9.15** Britain's Got More Talent **10.20** Celebrity Juice **11.05** Britain's Got Talent **12.20** Britain's Got More Talent **1.20** Hell's Kitchen **2.10** Crazy Beaches **2.30** Life's Funniest Moments **2.55** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3
11.25 Wycliffe **12.40 Film:** The Queen (2006) **2.40** Inspector Morse **4.55** Agatha Christie's Marple **7.00** Doc Martin **8.00** Foyle's War **10.00** Inspector Morse **12.20** A Touch of Frost **2.20** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4
11.30 Pawn Stars **1.20** British Superbike Championship Highlights **2.25** British Touring Car Championship Highlights **3.55 Film:** Smokey and the Bandit II (1980) **6.00** Storage Wars: Texas **7.00** Shed and Buried **8.00 Film:** Dr No (1962) **10.15 Film:** The Kingdom (2007) **12.30 Film:** Sneakers (1992) **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4
11.30 Baby Daddy **12.30** How I Met Your Mother **1.30** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **1.55 Film:** Star Trek: Insurrection (1998) **4.00** Made in Chelsea **5.00** Jane the Virgin **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **10.00 Film:** Scary Movie (2000) **11.45** Rude Tube **12.50** Bodyshockers: Nips, Tucks and Tattoos **1.55** The 100 **2.45** How I Met Your Mother **3.30** Marry Me **3.55** Rude(ish) Tube **4.45** Make It or Break It

Film4
11.00 Destination Gobi (1953) **1.00** Dear John (2010) **3.05** Bugsy Malone (1976) **4.55** Meet Dave (2008) **6.45** The Women (2008) **9.00** Colombiana (2011) **11.10** The Hole (2009) **1.00** Sliver (1993) **3.15** Close

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CHOICE

Eleanor Tomlinson

Poldark (BBC1, 9pm)

He stands up for the poor, he's won the hearts of the viewers, and he's very handy with a scythe, but it seems even Ross Poldark can't make a go of the Carnmore smelting company. Its collapse is good news for George, whose own business interests are doing so well, he can even afford to swan around on a new boat. However, it's Ross's turn to feel smug when the vessel is wrecked upon the rocks, right in looting distance of the poor... Meanwhile, Dwight deals with his guilt by throwing himself into his work, and there's plenty to keep him occupied thanks to an outbreak of 'putrid throat'. Demelza is keen to do her bit as well, but in the process she puts herself and baby Julia in danger.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.25** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Athletics: London Marathon. **2.30** Sunday Politics. **3.45** Points of View. **4.00** The Truth About Your Medicine Cabinet. (R) **5.00** Songs of Praise – School Choir of the Year. **5.45** Pointless Celebrities. (R)

6.35 BBC News.

6.50 Regional Programme.

7.00 Countryfile. John Craven and Ellie Harrison are in the Peak District, where motor neurone sufferer Roy Taylor reveals his work for the RSPB and his aim to make the countryside accessible to all. There's a 50th anniversary celebration of the National Search and Rescue Dog Association, and a visit to a working hill farm where disabled and disadvantaged young people get to connect with nature. Anita Rani finds out how the Pennine Way has changed in the half-century since its creation, and Tom Heap asks what can be done to prevent the rise of hayfever in the UK. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the team pay a second visit to Lowther Castle in Cumbria, where items include an army of Action Man figures, a "skeletonised" pendulum wall clock from the 1870s, a working child-sized car from the 1930s and a ring containing a gem that may or may not be worth a small fortune. There's also an insight into Beatrix Potter's scientific watercolours of woodland plants and animals – and her controversial work on the sex life of fungi.

9.00 Poldark. Ross is forced to close the company, so George celebrates by buying a new ship – but his enemy soon gets revenge. Demelza returns when disease hits Trenwith. Last in the series.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action, featuring Arsenal v Chelsea at the Emirates Stadium and Everton v Manchester United.

11.35 Film: Snake Eyes. (1998) Thriller, starring Nicolas Cage.

1.10 Film: It's a Boy Girl Thing. (2006) **2.35** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.40** BBC News.

BBC2

6.10 The Football League Show. (R) **7.30** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.00** The Beechgrove Garden. **8.30** Athletics: London Marathon. **10.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Triathlon. **2.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. The afternoon session on day nine at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield.

6.00 Athletics: London Marathon – Highlights. Helen Skelton introduces action from one of the world's most prestigious road races, as elite athletes and fun-runners negotiated the 26.2-mile course.

7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. Coverage of the evening's play on day nine at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, featuring the second sessions of two matches in the second round. All four players will return to the arena tomorrow afternoon to conclude these fixtures, with former champion Shaun Murphy and 2011 runner-up Judd Trump among those expected to be involved. Presented by Jason Mohammad, with the commentary including Ken Doherty, Willie Thorne and Stephen Hendry.

8.10 Coast Australia. The team heads to the northern tip of Queensland to explore the Torres Strait Islands, with Tim Flannery visiting the spot where James Cook claimed Australia for Great Britain.

9.00 Hunters of the South Seas. Will Millard heads to the Indonesian village of Lamalera, where the locals have survived for centuries by hunting manta rays, dolphins, sharks and whales.

10.00 Britain's Biggest Diamond Heist? The Inside Story. Declan Lawn takes a journey into Britain's criminal underworld in search of the secrets behind the raid carried out over the Easter weekend in London's Hatton Garden.

10.30 W1A. The return of the spoof documentary. The team prepares for a visit by Prince Charles, and Siobhan is tasked with updating the BBC's Wimbledon coverage. (R)

11.30 Snooker: The World Championship. Highlights of the concluding session on day nine.

12.20 Snooker: World Championship Extra. **2.20** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **3.15** Holby City. (R) **4.15** The Ladykillers: Pest Detectives. (R) **5.15** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.20** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.15** Sooty. (R) **7.30** Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **11.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.30** ITV News. **12.35** Tipping Point. (R) **1.35** All Star Family Fortunes. (R) **2.40** Britain's Got Talent. (R) **3.55** Doc Martin. (R) **5.55** Ninja Warrior UK. (R)

6.50 Regional Programme; Weather.

7.00 ITV News; Weather.

7.15 Celebrity Squares. Shooting Stars duo Vic Reeves and Bob Mortimer, footballer Rachel Yankey, comedian and actor Marek Larwood, Loose Women panellist Sherrie Hewson, writer and actress Jessica Hynes, funnyman Chris Ramsey and King of the Jungle 2014 Carl Fogarty join regulars Tim Vine and Joe Wilkinson in the grid, helping contestants win cash prizes. Warwick Davis hosts the Noughts and Crosses-based game show.

8.00 Vera. When dock worker Owen Thorne plunges from the roof of a multi-storey car park while picking up his daughter from her school prom, Vera immediately detects foul play. The team soon discovers a work dispute over the death of a young man, with everyone believing Owen was to blame, and the victim's father admits he wanted revenge – but his alibi holds. The mystery then continues when Vera spots an inconsistency in the statement Owen's wife gave to the police, suggesting she's not certain of her husband's fidelity. Last in the series.

10.00 ITV News; Weather.

10.15 Perspectives: Len Goodman – For the Love of Fred Astaire. The Strictly Come Dancing judge travels across America exploring the extraordinary life of his hero, finding out how and why Astaire became one of the world's greatest movers.

11.15 Premiership Rugby Union. Highlights of the latest top-flight fixtures, which included Northampton Saints v Saracens.

12.15 The Store. **2.30** Motorsport UK. **3.30** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **4.20** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.40** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.05** Volkswagen Racing Cup. **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Frasier. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Sunday Brunch. **12.00** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) **1.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.50** The Simpsons. (R) **2.20** The Simpsons. (R) **2.50** Location, Location, Location. (R) **3.50** A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. **4.50 Film:** ParaNorman. (2012) Premiere. Animated adventure, with the voice of Kodi Smit-McPhee.

6.35 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Three in a Bed. Tax accountant Vincent Frostick hosts the first visit in another three-part contest, inviting two other hotelier couples to stay at the three-star Don Guesthouse, run by his formidable 81-year-old mother Irene in Snowdonia's historic mining town of Blaenau Ffestiniog. Next up are Cath Robertson and Dave Redfearn, who hope the decadent decor of the Graydon Hotel in Blackpool will impress their fellow competitors. Finally, Jayne Little and Michael Haymes round off the competition by bringing their rivals to the eco-friendly Blackburn Lodge on the Scottish Borders, and the B&B owners convene one last time to reveal which of their venues was considered to be the most impressive.

8.00 For the Love of Cars. Philip Glenister fulfils a dream to drive some of Britain's most iconic police cars, as he and Ant Anstead restore a Rover SD1 and push a 1959 Daimler Dart to the limit.

9.00 Film: The Impossible. (2012) Premiere. A British family spends Christmas in Thailand, only to get caught up in the 2004 tsunami. While his mother lies injured in hospital, the eldest son ventures into the ensuing chaos to search for his father and younger brothers, whom he was separated from during the crisis. Drama, with Naomi Watts.

11.15 Film: Whiteout. (2009) A US marshal stationed in Antarctica investigates a murder, uncovering the dark secret behind a plane crash 50 years earlier. Thriller, starring Kate Beckinsale.

1.05 Film: Kali Salwaar. (2002) **3.05** Kirstie's Vintage Gems. (R) **3.15** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.30** Jamie's Money Saving Meals. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.15** Milkshake! Bop Box. (R) **6.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.35** Pip Ahoy! (R) **6.45** The Mr Men Show. (R) **7.00** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.10** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **7.15** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.20** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.35** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.45** Little Princess. (R) **8.00** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **8.10** Mio Mao. (R) **8.15** Zack and Quack. **8.30** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.40** Milkshake! Show Songs. (R) **8.45** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.00** LazyTown. (R) **9.30** Dora and Friends. (R) **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.35** Chinese Food in Minutes. (R) **10.50** The Hotel Inspector. (R) **11.50** The Hotel Inspector. (R) **12.50** The Hotel Inspector. (R) **1.50 Film:** James and the Giant Peach. (1996) Children's fantasy, with Paul Terry. **3.20 Film:** Sabrina the Teenage Witch. (1996) Supernatural comedy, starring Melissa Joan Hart. **5.10** 5 News Weekend. **5.15 Film:** Labyrinth. (1986) Fantasy adventure, starring Jennifer Connelly and David Bowie.

7.15 Film: Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls. (1995) The eccentric pet detective is coaxed out of self-imposed exile in a Buddhist monastery to visit Africa and help search for a sacred white bat. However, his unique investigative talents are tested to the limits as he faces a race against time to find the missing creature and prevent a tribal war. Comedy sequel, starring Jim Carrey, Simon Callow and Bob Gunton. Edited for language and sexual content.

9.00 Film: The Last Stand. (2013) Premiere. Disgraced narcotics cop Ray Owens retires into a quiet life as sheriff of a small town on the Mexican border. He gets the chance to prove his worth as a law enforcer when a drug lord escapes from prison and tries to flee the country – with his escape route taking him through Ray's jurisdiction. Action thriller, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger, Johnny Knoxville and Forest Whitaker.

11.30 Film: Navy Seals. (1990) The US Navy's elite commando force embarks on a covert mission to recover stolen missiles from terrorists in Beirut. Action adventure, starring Charlie Sheen and Michael Biehn.

1.45 SuperCasino. **3.10** The Gadget Show. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.15** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Top Gear **8.00 Film:** Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (1989) **10.00** Tatau **10.45** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **11.55** Family Guy **12.15** Tatau **12.55** Killer Magic **1.25** The Cannabis Smugglers: Stacey Dooley Investigates **2.25** Vodka Diaries **2.50** Tatau **3.30** Killer Magic **4.00** Close

BBC Four

7.00 10 Things You Didn't Know About Avalanches **8.00** Antigone **9.30 Film:** Renoir (2012) **11.15** Tales from the Tour Bus: Rock 'n' Roll on the Road **12.15** The Old Grey Whistle Test: 70s Gold **1.45** BBC Young Dancer 2015 **2.45** 10 Things You Didn't Know About Avalanches **3.45** Close

ITV2

12.10 Take Me Out **1.20** Scorpion **2.15 Film:** Homeward Bound: The Incredible Journey (1993) **3.55 Film:** Scooby-Doo (2002) **5.45** Britain's Got Talent **7.00** Britain's Got More Talent **8.00** You've Been Framed! A to Z of Growing Up **9.00 Film:** Rush Hour (1998) **11.00 Film:** The Bourne Supremacy (2004) **1.10** Mom **1.55** Life's Funniest Moments **2.20** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

11.10 A Touch of Frost **1.25** Agatha Christie's Marple **3.30 Film:** The Secret of My Success (1987) **5.40** Inspector Morse **8.00** When Kate Met William: A Tale of Two Lives **9.00** Kate Middleton: Heir We Go Again **10.00 Film:** Elizabeth: The Golden Age (2007) **12.20 Film:** The Elephant Man (1980) **2.35** Judge Judy **3.15** ITV3 Nightscreen **3.40** Emmerdale

ITV4

11.30 Counting Cars **12.25** Pawn Stars **2.40 Film:** Smokey and the Bandit II (1980) **4.45 Film:** Tobruk (1967) **7.00** Paula Radcliffe: Sports Life Stories **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union **9.00 Film:** The Interpreter (2005) **11.35 Film:** The Killer Inside Me (2010) **1.45** Whisker Wars **2.35** Nitro Circus **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

12.00 Made in Chelsea **1.00** Revenge **2.00** Jane the Virgin **3.00** How I Met Your Mother **4.00** The Goldbergs **5.00** The Big Bang Theory **8.00 Film:** Percy Jackson & the Lightning Thief (2010) **10.20** Virtually Famous **11.05 Film:** The Change-Up (2011) **1.20** The 100 **2.20** 2 Broke Girls **2.50** Rules of Engagement

Film4

1.00 Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (2004) **3.05** True Grit (1969) **5.45** The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (2008) **9.00** Knight and Day (2010) **11.10** The Paperboy (2012) **1.15** A Mighty Heart (2007) **3.30** Close

FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
Unforgiven, Channel 5, 11pm
Two notorious gunslingers come out of retirement to help a young assassin collect the $1,000 bounty on the heads of a pair of cowboys who attacked and mutilated a prostitute in the backwoods town of Big Whiskey. The local sheriff, however, has no intention of letting the pair impinge on his own authority. Oscar-winning Western, starring Clint Eastwood. (1992)

TUESDAY
Ghost Town, BBC1, 11.50pm
A bad-tempered dentist has a near-death experience and finds himself able to see ghosts. He is irritated to find all the spirits want him to sort out their unresolved problems from when they were alive, particularly a man who wants the grouchy dentist to stop his widow from remarrying. Comedy, starring Ricky Gervais, Greg Kinnear and Tea Leoni. (2008)

WEDNESDAY
Jindabyne, BBC1, 11.30pm
Four men on a fishing trip discover the body of a murdered Aboriginal girl, but decide not to contact the police until after returning home days later. However, when the news breaks in their small town, they are ostracised by the community, and one of their wives becomes obsessed with making amends. Drama, starring Gabriel Byrne and Laura Linney. (2006)

Senna, Friday, ITV, 10.40pm

THURSDAY
Carry On Again Doctor, ITV, 11.50pm
A disgraced surgeon sets up a clinic in the hope of promoting a supposedly miraculous slimming potion made from secret ingredients discovered on a remote tropical island. Comedy, starring Sid James, Kenneth Williams, Jim Dale and Joan Sims. (1969)

FRIDAY
Senna, ITV, 10.40pm
Documentary about the life of Brazilian Formula One driver Ayrton Senna, examining his achievements on the track over a 10-year period that saw him crowned world champion three times, until his death in a crash during the 1994 San Marino Grand Prix. (2010)

Peter's on the road to a journey of self-discovery

Peter Kay is back! For many moons, he was regarded as Britain's premier comedian, the heir to the northern comedy crown once worn by the likes of Morecambe and Wise and Les Dawson.

He started his showbusiness career in stand-up after enrolling on a media performance course at Salford University. Then, in 1996, after appearing at various local clubs, he was encouraged to enter the North-west Comedian of the Year contest, which he won. A year later, he also triumphed at Edinburgh's So You Think You're Funny competition.

Despite missing out on the Perrier Award in 1998, Kay's star was rising and by 2000, he was appearing regularly on TV.

The mockumentary The Services went down a storm and led to That Peter Kay Thing, which was followed by the mighty Phoenix Nights. For many, that remains the peak of his career to date, and was recently revived via a charity stage version which featured much of the original cast.

Like many comics, Kay is a keen people-watcher, and uses quirky moments he's observed in his work; it's something he started back when he was working in dead-end jobs before fame called.

"When I was working, I would write down lots of things that were funny – things managers would say and phrases they'd use that stood out, and stories about what happened," he reveals.

Perhaps that's where the germ of the idea that grew into his latest project, Car Share, came from. It's similar in tone to the aforementioned That Peter Kay Thing, with a soupcon of Phoenix Nights thrown in for good measure – basically, it's a sitcom based around characters thrown together by their jobs.

BBC iPlayer users had the opportunity of watching Car Share early when it appeared on the catch-up service last week. But there's something more special about seeing it on TV – anything new featuring Kay feels like an event worth sitting down with friends or family to view.

Kay himself stars as John, a supermarket worker who begins commuting with colleague Kayleigh (Sian Gibson) thanks to a company car-share initiative.

"To be finally working with the BBC on a new comedy is a great opportunity," says Kay, whose previous work has been broadcast by Channel 4. "And the idea of two people car sharing to work each day really appealed to me, as it highlights the comedy in the minutiae of the daily trek and allows the spiralling conversations of life to unwind in all of their glory."

Each of John and Kayleigh's six journeys reveal something different about their private lives – but will they get along?

A sat-nav disaster means the first trip doesn't get off to a good start, and to make matters worse, Kayleigh makes her mark as soon as she gets into John's car – what could have been a beautiful friendship may have been ruined before it's had a chance to get off the ground.

Peter Kay's Car Share, Wednesday, BBC1, 9.30pm

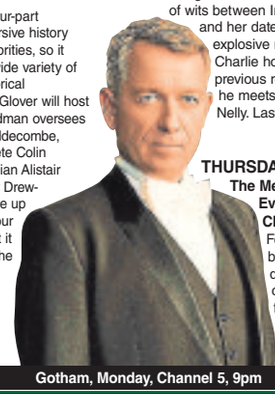
BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
The Gadget Show
Channel 5, 7pm
Jason Bradbury and Amy Williams head to Shakespeare's home town of Stratford-upon-Avon, but they're not on the trail of a Bard-related gadget. Instead, they're putting some of the craziest new vehicles through the paces, including off-road trainers and horse racing simulators – but which will come out on top? Meanwhile, Jon Bentley is in calmer mode as he compares the merits of an entry-level DSLR with the latest mirrorless camera by taking snaps at a classic car event. Former world superbike champ Carl Fogarty tries out the latest in motorbike technology, while Ortis Deley travels to another far-flung destination, where he pushes VideoRay, an underwater remotely operated vehicle, to its limits.

Gotham
Channel 5, 9pm
Gordon investigates Loeb's past after the sudden release of Arnold Flass, and has to ask Cobblepot for a favour to find out more about the suspicious death of the commissioner's wife. Meanwhile, Alfred recovers from the attack in hospital, but is evasive when questioned by detectives about the identity of his assailant, while Fish Mooney earns a promotion after impressing the founder of the institution where she is being held. Crime thriller. starring Ben McKenzie, Jada Pinkett Smith and Sean Pertwee.

TUESDAY
24 Hours in the Past
BBC1, 9pm
The Beeb has described this new, four-part programme as a "dirty, smelly, immersive history series." What's more, it features celebrities, so it should attract viewers who enjoy a wide variety of genres, including reality shows, historical documentaries and social drama. Fi Glover will host the series, while historian Ruth Goodman oversees the proceedings. Ex-political Ann Widdecombe, presenter Miquita Oliver, retired athlete Colin Jackson, actress Zoe Lucker, comedian Alistair McGowan and Outnumbered's Tyger Drew-Honey are the famous faces who give up all mod cons to spend four days in four different environments, learning what it was like to be working class during the Victorian period.

WEDNESDAY
First Dates
Channel 4, 10pm
Former model Joe knows exactly how to charm, but he finds himself working for the affections of personal shopper Nicole. Devout Christian Tawanda gets to know Marvin, a Trevor Nelson doppelganger, while Essex girl Sian is on the hunt for her dream man – and Londoner Tom ticks all the right boxes. There's a linguistic battle of wits between Irish fashionista Laura and her date Frankie, with explosive results, and confident Charlie hopes to right his previous relationship wrongs as he meets one-time ballet dancer Nelly. Last in the series.



Gotham, Monday, Channel 5, 9pm

THURSDAY
The Mentalist: The Last Ever Episode
Channel 5, 10pm
Feature-length episode bringing the curtain down on the American crime drama. The hunt for the serial killer continues and when a public appeal for witnesses yields no results, Jane reluctantly agrees to masquerade as a renowned psychic and be used as bait in an attempt to lure out the murderer. As he is leaving a studio after an appearance on a TV news programme, Jane's car is rammed and he is knocked unconscious – waking up to find himself shackled to a table. Simon Baker and Robin Tunney star. Last in the series.

FRIDAY
The Clare Balding Show
BBC2, 10pm
The weekend alarm goes off and Clare Balding is hosting her Radio 2 show. You pop The One Show on later in the week and she's promoting this series. Yes, when it comes to ubiquity, Clare is more omnipresent than Ant and Dec combined it seems. But can she break the curse that befell Gaby Roslin and Davina McCall in the past: sustaining a prime time female-hosted chat show? Well, it may take at least one series to iron out the wrinkles. Talking of which, this week she's joined by a man who loves nothing more than such crease-reducing shenanigans: Chris Eubank. The former world champion boxer and his son Chris Jr, currently the WBA interim world middleweight title-holder, discuss their professional and personal lives. Top tips on ironing welcome, Chris.

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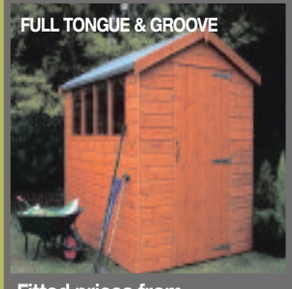

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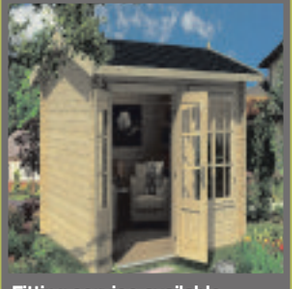

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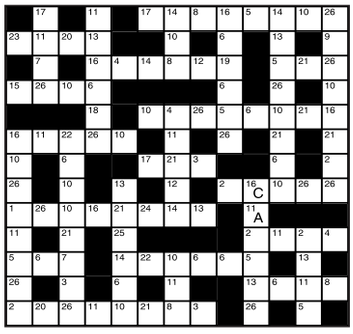
Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1	14
2	15
3	16 C
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11 A	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
R	E	B	J	H	I	G	F	Y	Z	C	U	K
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
V	S	X	A	W	L	T	O	N	Q	P	M	D

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

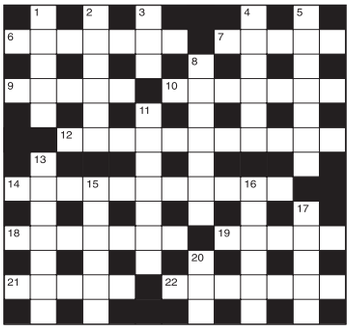
Cryptic Clues:

Across

6. Odd sort of brazier (7)
7. Figures that have to be filled (5)
9. Highest tree by the way (5)
10. Taxi I catch under the Prime Minister's direction (7)
12. How troops may advance knowledge? (11)
14. Very good quality, this! (11)
18. Note recorded as beaten (7)
19. A fibre preparation, not long-lasting (5)
21. Leaves with all debts settled (5)
22. One youngster was bold enough to sling him out! (7)

Down

1. Stiff attire I'd put on (5)
2. Hand over and die (4,2)
3. Merry-hearted lapse from virtue (3)
4. Vote is for Russian government (6)
5. Ruler in a temper, or so it seems (7)
8. Object in torn clothing (7)
11. They have loads of energy (7)
13. Not to agree to a full distribution (4,3)
15. Things look different after dark (6)
16. Sally from the Tories (6)
17. Mouth a letter (5)
20. Weed-killer (3)



Quick Clues:

Across

6. Relate (7)
7. Cite (5)
9. Speed (5)
10. Attendants (7)
12. Deception (11)
14. Coiffeur (11)
18. Go on (7)
19. Droll (5)
21. Disdain (5)
22. Laden (7)

Down

1. Postpone (5)
2. Placard (6)
3. Writing fluid (3)
4. Vain (6)
5. Constant (7)
8. Ask (7)
11. Dispute (7)
13. Whim (7)
15. Register (6)
16. Departure (6)
17. Correct (5)
20. Skill (3)

Sudoku

	3		9		5		8	4
		6				9		
2			6		1			7
		5		9		2		
	2		4		6			
		8		7		3	9	
4			2		8			9
	8	2				4		
	1		3		9		6	

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

7	6	5	1	4	8	3	9	2
2	3	9	7	5	6	4	8	1
1	8	4	2	3	9	5	6	7
9	1	7	8	2	3	6	5	4
6	5	2	9	1	4	8	7	3
8	4	3	6	7	5	2	1	9
4	9	6	3	8	1	7	2	5
3	7	1	5	6	2	9	4	8
5	2	8	4	9	7	1	3	6

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Husbandman; 7 Rover; 8 Leisure; 10 Well nigh; 11 Edit; 13 Backer; 15 Rearer; 17 Airy; 18 Circular; 21 Knights; 22 Andes; 23 Bluebottle. Down: 1 Hovel; 2 Sprinter; 3 Allege; 4 Dais; 5 Asunder; 6 Draw a blank; 9 Enterprise; 12 Penchant; 14 Cordial; 16 Fiasco; 19 Ledge; 20 Shoe. QUICK - Across: 1 Profession; 7 Noted; 8 Pointed; 10 Inherent; 11 Boss; 13 Hearty; 15 Horror; 17 Safe; 18 Increase; 21 Sublime; 22 Wince; 23 Repeatedly. Down: 1 Pitch; 2 Obdurate; 3 Expand; 4 Slim; 5 Outdoor; 6 Antithesis; 9 Disordered; 12 Borrowed; 14 Affable; 16 Intent; 19 Annoy; 20 File.

Thinking space

Quiz

1. By what name, meaning 'our thing', is the mafia known in the US?
2. Which poet is buried in a country churchyard in Stoke Poges?
3. Whose operas are performed annually at Bayreuth?
4. Which US state has Dover as its capital?
5. Which prime minister became Earl of Stockton?
6. Who was the first Roman emperor?
7. In which century did the Peasants' Revolt take place?
8. During which Crimean War Battle did the Charge of the Light Brigade take place?
9. In which novel did Sherlock Holmes first appear?
10. What is the lowest-pitched member of the violin family?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Tequila; 2 Waterloo; 3 Gold; 4 Neville Chamberlain; 5 Wars of the Roses; 6 St Nicholas; 7 Johannesburg; 8 George Eliot; 9 Caracas; 10 Sitting Bull.

Niner: DAVENPORT

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

82354 gives an animal,
96743 gives another animal,
143349 gives a third animal.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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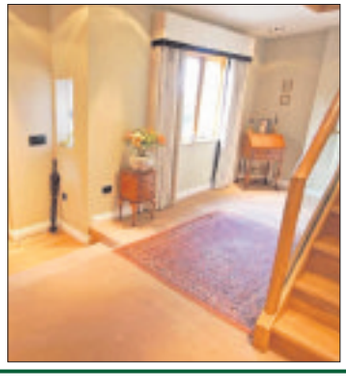
Stylish decor and with its own swimming pool

SET well back from the road on Radford Lane in Lower Penn, Wolverhampton, this stunning residence has been re-styled with no expense spared.

It is for sale through Thomas Harvey at £895,000.

Approached via a gated driveway it has a sitting room, dining room, living room, breakfast kitchen with family area containing tailor-made units and appliances with the benefit of a hidden utility, galleried landing, master bedroom with luxury en-suite and balcony, guest bedroom with dressing room and en-suite and two further bedrooms with en-suite and luxury bathroom.

There is an indoor swimming pool with gym area, sauna room and shower room. There are two garages and grounds of about one acre. Contact 01902 758111 or www.thomasharvey.co.uk



Detached home in a select location

A SPACIOUS detached residence in a select cul-de-sac off Richmond Road, 14 Alderdale, Finchfield has direct access to the city centre and versatile accommodation with an impressively positioned layout.

It is for sale through Bartlams at £289,950.

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WOLVERHAMPTON £115,000 |

HORDERN ROAD

● EPC Rating Grade C ● Beautifully Presented Family Home ● Viewing Essential ● Through Hall With Wc & Cloakroom ● Lounge ● Modern Kitchen / Dining Room ● Large Conservatory ● Three Bedrooms ● Stylish Bathroom / Wc ● Gardens To Front & Rear

wolverhampton@your-move.co.uk
01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON £110,000 |

ASTBURY CLOSE

● Epc Rated C● Modern Style Family Home● Spacious Well -presented Accommodation● Viewing Essential, Entrance Hall With Cloakroom / Wc● Modern Kitchen / Dining Room● Large Lounge / Dining Room● Three Bedrooms● Family Bathroom / Wc●Front & Rear Gardens

wolverhampton@your-move.co.uk
01902 771511

BILSTON | £110,000

LORD STREET

●EPC Ratings Awaited●Lovely Family Home, Well Presented Accommodation● Semi Open-plan Lounge / Dining Room● Fitted Kitchen● Three Bedrooms● Bathroom & Separate WC● Delightful Landscaped Gardens●High Efficiency Electric Heating●No Upward Chain

wolverhampton@your-move.co.uk
01902 771511

BILSTON | £107,500

LAWNSIDE GREEN

● EPC Rating Is Grade E ● Significantly Renovated Semi Detached ● Three Good Sized Bedrooms ● Lounge With Separate Dining Room ● Downstairs WC & Upstairs Bathroom ● Re-Fitted Modern Kitchen ● Good Sized Rear Garden ● Off Street Parking To The Front ● Gas Central Heating System ● Available With No Upward Chain

wolverhampton@your-move.co.uk
01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON £99,950 |

HUMPHRIES ROAD

● Epc Rated B●Modern Eco-friendly Home●Viewing Essential●Entrance Hall With Cloakroom / Wc●Lounge / Dining Room●Conservatory●Fitted Kitchen●Two Double Bedrooms●Bathroom / Wc● Off Road Parking & Gardens

wolverhampton@your-move.co.uk
01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON £90,000 |

ANNAN AVENUE

● EPC Rating D●Traditional Semi-detached Home●Corner Plot, Two Separate Reception Rooms● Kitchen● Double Bedrooms●Bathroom / WC● Off Road Parking● Gardens To Front Side And Rear●No Upward Chain

wolverhampton@your-move.co.uk
01902 771511

WOLVERHAMPTON £72,000 |

STRATHFIELD WALK

● Awaiting EPC ● Ground Floor One Bedroom Flat ● One Double Bedroom ● Large Reception Room ● Kitchen / Diner ● Off Road Parking ● Viewing Essential

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The Property Ombudsman

The Property Ombudsman

Enviable location for this extended detached

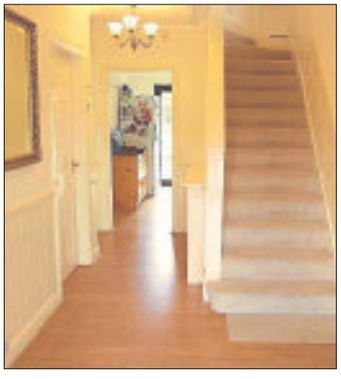
THIS substantial extended detached family home in Harpur Road, Walsall lies in an enviable location between Walsall and Aldridge centres.

It is for sale through Edwards Moore at £399,950.

With double glazing, gas central heating, double garage, large frontage and a garden it has a porch, reception hall with staircase off, WC, a study, a dining room with a feature fireplace, a through lounge with double doors opening to the garden and a further sliding patio door and an inglenook fireplace with a wood burner.

There is a breakfast kitchen with an integrated double electric oven and gas hob, utility, master bedroom suite with an en-suite bathroom, three further bedrooms and a family bathroom.

Call 01922 621411 or visit www.edwards-moore.co.uk



Popular area and ideal for first timer

THIS two-bedroomed semi-detached house in Edinburgh Avenue, Bentley lies in a consistently popular area.

Ideal for a first time buyer, it is for sale through L&S Prestige at £112,500.

The well proportioned living accommodation comprises entrance hall, spacious lounge/diner, kitchen with light wood-effect units and ground floor WC, two double bedrooms and family bathroom.

The property also benefits from double glazing and gas central heating . There is also off road parking to the front and an enclosed garden to the rear.

Contact L&S Prestige Estates on 01902 606595 or visit www.prestige-estatesuk.com

your-move.co.uk

Genuinely helpful.

YOUR MOVE

FAIRVIEW CLOSE | £595

- Three Bed Traditional Semi
- Garage,Driveway & Gardens
- Two Reception Rooms
- Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating

wednesfield@your-move.co.uk
01902 305665

SEATON CLOSE | £550

- Two Bed Modern Mid Terraced
- Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating
- Driveway & Rear Gardens
- Cul De Sac Location

wednesfield@your-move.co.uk
01902 305665

WAKES CLOSE | £525

- Modern Two Bedroom Mid Terraced
- Cul-De-Sac Location
- DHSS Considered With Guarantor
- Local To Willenhall Town Centre

wednesfield@your-move.co.uk
01902 305665

PRESTWOOD ROAD | £475

- Two Bedroom Mid Terrace
- Kitchen Diner, Lounge, GF Bathroom
- Bedrooms with storage, Rear garden
- Gas Central Heating,Double Glazed

wednesfield@your-move.co.uk
01902 305665

ST CECILIAS | £450

- Renovated Two Bedroom Flat
- New Kitchen
- New Bathroom
- Sorry No DHSS, Available Now

wednesfield@your-move.co.uk
01902 305665

CADMAN CRESC | £147,500

- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Corner Plot With Garage/Work Shop
- Front & Rear Gardens,Gated Driveway
- No Chain,EPC Rate E

wednesfield@your-move.co.uk
01902 305665

WELLAND GROVE | £135,000

- Three Bedroom Semi, EPC Awaited.
- Gated Side Access For parking
- Cul De Sac,Two Reception Rooms
- Double Glazing & Central Heating

wednesfield@your-move.co.uk
01902 305665

CADMAN CRESC | £100,000

- Three Bedroom Traditional Semi
- Two Reception Rooms,Garage&Driveway
- Gardens,Double Glazing,Central Heating
- No Upward Chain, EPC Rate is D

wednesfield@your-move.co.uk
01902 305665

FERGUSON STREET | £76,500

- First Floor One Bedroom Maisonette
- Own Driveway & Rear Garden
- Beautiful Kitchen & Bathroom
- EPC Rating Awaited

wednesfield@your-move.co.uk
01902 305665

DUDLEY CRESCENT | £77,500

- Large Split Level Flat
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Allocated Garden & Balcony
- EPC Ratings Awaited

wednesfield@your-move.co.uk
01902 305665

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bilston@skitts.net	01902 353578
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surveyors@skitts.net	0121 520 2255

EPC - D
NEW
SHARESHILL CHURCH ROAD
- THREE BEDROOM DORMER BUNGALOW
- LOUNGE WITH FEATURE FIREPLACE
- MODERN FITTED KITCHEN
- MODERN DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM

£199,950

EPC - C
NEW
WOLVERHAMPTON WALTHO STREET
- THREE BEDROOM END-TERRACE
- LOUNGE
- MODERN DINING KITCHEN
- MODERN FAMILY BATHROOM

£139.950

EPC - D
NEW
PARKFIELDS ROOKER AVENUE
- TWO BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- LOUNGE
- MODERN DINING KITCHEN
- MODERN FAMILY BATHROOM

£92,500

EPC - E
NEW
OXLEY CRATHORNE AVENUE
- THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- LOUNGE WITH FEATURE FIREPLACE
- DINING KITCHEN
- FAMILY BATHROOM

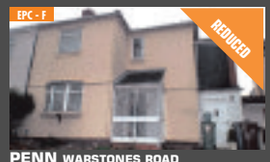
£115,000

EPC - C
NEW
NORTHWOOD PARK CROMWELL ROAD
- THREE BEDROOM MID-TERRACE
- LARGE LOUNGE
- FITTED KITCHEN
- FAMILY BATHROOM

£115,000

EPC - D
REDUCED
OXLEY PROBERT ROAD
- THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- LOUNGE & DINING AREA
- FITTED KITCHEN
- FAMILY BATHROOM

£110,000

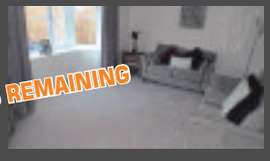

EPC - F
REDUCED
PENN WARSTONES ROAD
- THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- FAMILY BATHROOM

Offers Over £115,000

EPC - B
NEW
OXLEY RAKEGATE CLOSE
- FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED
- LARGE LOUNGE
- MODERN DINING KITCHEN
- MASTER BEDROOM WITH EN-SUITE

£189,950

EPC - tbc
OXLEY PENKRIDGE GARDENS
- DETACHED & SEMI-DETACHED DORMER BUNGALOWS
- VIEWING VIA APPOINTMENT ONLY.
- PLOTS 1, 2, 3, 4 & 7 NOW RESERVED



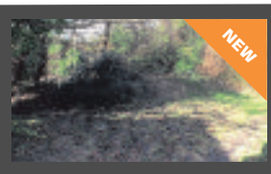
- MODERN FITTED KITCHEN
- MODERN BATHROOMS
- PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT

From £185,000

EPC - E
FORDHOUSES NEWBURY ROAD
ADDRESS - 12 Newbury Road, Fordhouses, Wolverhampton, WV10 6QF
We are acting in the sale of the above property and have received an offer of £103,000. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.

£100,000

EPC - tbc
FEATHERSTONE SOUTH CRESCENT
- DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY
- THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- IN NEED OF RENOVATION
- LAND TO SIDE ELEVATION


NEW
- PREVIOUS PLANNING PERMISSION FOR TWO DETACHED BUNGALOWS
- DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING
- DRIVEWAY PARKING

£175,000

NEW
BUSHBURY RINGWOOD ROAD
- SOLD IN YOUR AREA?
- SIMILAR PROPERTIES REQUIRED.
- CALL US ON 01902 788188

£69,950

WARSTONES EASTCROFT ROAD
- SOLD IN YOUR AREA?
- SIMILAR PROPERTIES REQUIRED.
- 01902 788188

£79,950

NEW
OXLEY STAFFORD ROAD
- SOLD IN YOUR AREA?
- SIMILAR PROPERTIES REQUIRED.
- 01902 788188

£90,000

NEW
NORTHWOOD PARK WENTWORTH ROAD
- SALE AGREED IN 1 DAY
- SIMILAR PROPERTIES REQUIRED.
- 01902 788188

£117,500

NEW
COMPTON CRANMORE ROAD
- SALE AGREED IN 3 DAYS
- SIMILAR PROPERTIES REQUIRED.
- 01902 788188

£149,950

NEW
OXLEY CRATHORNE AVENUE
- SOLD IN YOUR AREA?
- SIMILAR PROPERTIES REQUIRED.
- 01902 788188

£117,500

EPC: Tbc
WEDNESFIELD AMOS LANE
- Impressive well presented detached bungalow
- Much sought after position
- Three bedrooms

NEW
- Generous double glazed conservatory
- Refitted kitchen
- Upvc double glazing & central heating
- Double detached garage & off road parking

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £290,000

EPC: E
WEDNESFIELD MILL LANE
- Magnificent detached bungalow
- Two double bedrooms
- Tandem garage & driveway
- Superb landscaped garden to the front & rear

NEW PRICE £229,995

EPC: D
REDUCED
WEDNESFIELD ROBIN GROVE
- Beautifully presented extended detached three bedroom property
- Detached log cabin, currently home spa
- Garage & off road parking

NEW PRICE £215,000

EPC: D
NEW
WEDNESFIELD ELLARDS DRIVE
- Stunning three bedroom detached family home
- Refitted kitchen
- Impressive UPVC d/glazed conservatory
- Detached garage & off road parking

OFFERS AROUND £177,500

EPC: E
NEW
WEDNESFIELD BROAD LANE SOUTH
- Traditional style semi detached family home
- Much sought after location
- Three bedrooms
- No upward chain

OFFERS AROUND £155,000

EPC: F
NEW
WOLVERHAMPTON LYNTON AVENUE
- Well presented three bedroom semi detached
- Refitted extended kitchen
- UPVC d/glazing & gas central heating
- No upward chain

OFFERS AROUND £145,000

EPC: C
REDUCED
WEDNESFIELD HOPTON CRESCENT
- Semi detached family home in great location
- Three bedrooms & refitted kitchen
- Central heating & double glazing
- Garage and off road parking

OFFERS AROUND £139,995

EPC: D
WEDNESFIELD SPEEDWELL CLOSE
- Well presented modern style semi detached
- Two good size bedrooms
- Upvc d/glazing & gas c/heating
- Off road parking

£124,000 OFFERS

EPC: Tbc
NEW
WEDNESFIELD GRAISELEY LANE
- Beautifully presented three bedroom mid terrace
- Refitted kitchen & first floor bathroom
- UPVC double glazing
- Ideal family home!

OFFERS AROUND £119,995

EPC: C
WEDNESFIELD SNAPE ROAD
- Well presented extended semi detached property
- Two/three bedrooms
- Refitted breakfast kitchen
- Ideal first time buy!!

OFFERS OVER £115,000

EPC: D
NEW
WEDNESFIELD ROGERS CLOSE
- Well presented two bedroom semi detached
- Much sought after location
- Refitted kitchen & shower room
- No upward chain!

OFFERS AROUND £112,000

EPC: C
WEDNESFIELD LINTHOUSE LANE
- Two bedroom semi detached property
- Potential to extend (STPP)
- Off road parking
- No upward chain

£110,000 OFFERS

EPC: D
NEW
WEDNESFIELD TONADINE CLOSE
- Beautifully presented two bedroom semi detached
- Much sought after location
- Refitted extended dining kitchen
- UPVC d/glazing & central heating

OFFERS IN THE REGION £108,995

EPC: E
WEDNESFIELD VICTORIA ROAD
- Victorian style three bedroom mid terraced
- Double glazing & gas central heating
- Enclosed rear garden with paved area
- No upward chain!!

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £99,950

EPC: C
REDUCED
WEDNESFIELD SMALLSHIRE CLOSE
- Modern ground floor two bedroom apartment
- Freshly decorated lounge/diner
- Refitted shower room
- Viewing essential

OFFERS OVER £94,000

EPC: D
REDUCED
WEDNESFIELD HENFIELD CLOSE
- Attractive ground floor two bedroom maisonette
- Double glazing & electric heating
- Price for 50% share available on request
- Viewing highly recommended!!

£77,000 OFFERS

EPC: D
ESSINGTON HILL STREET
- Spacious purpose built first floor flat
- Three good size bedrooms
- UPVC d/glazing & gas c/heating
- No upward chain

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £74,995

WALL HEATH, DUDLEY

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- Prominent to A449 in a good quality area.
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PROPERTY

Well-presented home is an ideal first buy

WELL presented throughout, this modern-style two-bedroomed semi-detached home in Club Row, Dudley comes with a useful side room.

Ideal for the first time buyer and in a pleasant position, it is for sale through Skitts Estate Agents at £119,950 with no chain.

With central heating and double glazing it has a porch, entrance hall with stairs off, a living room with a pebble and coal effect fire, kitchen with a cooker hood and pantry, side room, two bedrooms (one with wardrobes) and a bathroom with a white suite and garden.

For further information contact Skitts on 01902 686868 or visit www.skitts.net

3-bed semi has no chain

THIS deceptively spacious and well proportioned three-bed semi-detached property in Marion Road, Smethwick is for sale through Taylors Estate Agents on £152,995 with no chain.

With a block-paved frontage and with gas central heating and majority double glazing, it has an entrance hall, a lounge with a feature fireplace and sliding patio doors out to the garden, dining room, kitchen with modern light wood-effect units and contrasting working surfaces, garden room (with wc off), three bedrooms, an attractive bathroom and a rear garden.

For further information contact Taylors Estate Agents on 0121 4344345 or visit www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk

Jackson LILE & CLOSE team

SPRINGHILL PARK LOWER PENN

A spacious and most distinguished Detached Double Fronted Family Residence of much character built in attractive neo Elizabethan style enjoying a lovely secluded setting in this highly sought after road with breathtaking open views at the rear. Enclosed porch, reception hall, sitting room, fine drawing room, dining room, double glazed conservatory, large utility room, shower/wet room, kitchen with breakfast area, semi galleried landing, four good sized bedrooms, bathroom, separate w.c., loft room, double width garage, DG, gas CH, delightfully landscaped gardens, property stands in approx. 0.27 acre. Energy rating: E

£485,000

EDNAM ROAD GOLDTHORN PARK

A very spacious and beautifully appointed Detached Double Fronted Bungalow of exceptional attraction, commanding a wide and most impressive frontage do this highly popular road. Enclosed porch, dining hall, most attractive lounge, large uPVC double glazed conservatory, stunning dining kitchen, utility, cloakroom with w.c., three bedrooms, deluxe bathroom with separate shower, uPVC DG, gas central heating, garage. A particular feature is the large delightfully landscaped gardens extending to c.1/3 acre, considerable potential for extensions/possibly converting into a large two story house (subject to PP) Viewing recommended. Energy rating D

Offers £349,000

BIRCHCROFT COVEN

A highly attractive Detached Double Fronted Bungalow of considerable appeal, holding a pleasant setting in this highly popular residential area only a short distance from Coven village centre. Porch, hall, lounge/dining area, well fitted breakfast kitchen, 2 double glazed conservatories, two bedrooms, bathroom, uPVC DG, GCH, large garage, laid out gardens to the front, side and rear, considerable extension possibilities (subject to pp). Energy rating: B.

Offers in the region of £259,950

BROWNSHORE LANE ESSINGTON

A beautifully presented and well appointed extended Detached Family residence of exceptional attraction enjoying an impressive corner setting in this much sought after area. Enclosed porch with large store room off, reception hall, attractive lounge, separate dining room, study/sitting room/bedroom 4, kitchen, rear lobby, cloakroom with w.c., utility area, landing, principal bedroom with large ensuite shower room off, two further bedrooms, family bathroom, DG, CH, garage, delightfully landscaped gardens. Energy rating: C

£249,995

WINDMILL LANE CASTLECROFT

An admirable modern Detached Family Residence in need of some redecoration holding a splendid corner setting in this highly popular area; excellent local shops, schools and bus services are readily available and Wolverhampton City Centre and the University are within easy travelling distance. Reception hall, cloakroom, lounge, dining room, kitchen, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, enclosed rear garden, large garage, gas central heating, uPVC double glazing. Energy rating: E

£240,000

JEREMY ROAD GOLDTHORN PARK

A considerably extended and most attractive Semi Detached Family Residence of traditional character and appeal enjoying a pleasant setting on this highly sought after development. Enclosed porch, hall, dining room, lounge, breakfast kitchen, utility, cloakroom with w.c., four bedrooms, bathroom, fully boarded and decorated loft room/play room with loft storage area off, garage and ample off road parking, CH, uPVC DG, garage, laid out gardens. No upward chain. Energy rating: E

£208,000

HILARY DRIVE MERRY HILL

A pleasing Detached Family Residence standing on a very impressive corner position just off Coalway Road and well positioned for a wide range of local amenities. Enclosed porch, reception hall, attractive lounge, dining room, sun lounge, kitchen, utility, three bedrooms, bathroom, uPVC DG, CH, large garage, (dependent relative annexe potential - subject to PP). Energy Rating: E

Offers £179,995

TURF COTTAGES, PENN COMMON

A period Mid Terraced Cottage in need of some updating but affording considerable potential for improvement and extension, enjoying a lovely setting with breath taking views over The Common, Penn Golf Course and far reaching views beyond. Enclosed porch, lounge, dining room, inner lobby, bathroom, kitchen, two bedrooms, part uPVC DG, gas CH, rear garden, large garden store. No upward chain. Energy rating: C

Offers From £165,000

OXLEY MOOR ROAD OXLEY

An extended and well presented Detached Family Residence of traditional character and appeal enjoying a pleasant setting with front views over looking wooded area and Oxley Park Golf Course beyond. Reception hall, cloaks, dining room, lounge, extended kitchen, three bedrooms, deluxe shower room, CH, uPVC DG, workshop and utility, private and attractively laid out gardens. Energy rating: E

Offers £165,000

OAK ROAD BREWOOD

An admirable Semi Detached House in need of some updating but offering much scope for improvement holding a gently elevated setting only a short distance from Brewood's picturesque village centre. Enclosed porch, hall, lounge, kitchen, dining room off, enclosed passageway with w.c., stores and workshop off, two bedrooms (the principal bedroom could be divided into two rooms, if desired), bathroom, CH, uPVC DG, off road parking space, laid out gardens. No upward chain. Awaiting EPC

£149,995

GLENMORE CLOSE BRADMORE

Beautifully presented Detached Bungalow of considerable attraction enjoying a lovely end of cul-de-sac setting in this popular area. Hall entrance, lounge/dining area, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, uPVC DG, gas CH, parking space, landscaped rear garden with sunny aspect. No upward chain. Energy rating: D

£139,950

WINGFOOT AVENUE BUSHBURY

An attractively presented Semi Detached Family House standing on a wide frontage affording considerable extension possibilities (subject to pp), enjoying an elevated setting with far reaching views at the rear. Canopy porch, hall, lounge, dining kitchen, utility room with w.c. off, three bedrooms, bathroom, DG, CH, ample car parking space. Energy rating: D

Offers guide £115,000

HANOVER COURT TETTENHALL

An attractive Ground Floor Retirement Apartment enjoying a pleasant setting within easy walking distance of Tettenhall's picturesque village centre. Enclosed hall entrance, "L" shaped lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, CH, uPVC double glazing, delightfully laid out communal gardens and parking facilities. 70% shared ownership with Hanover Housing Association. Energy rating: C

£97,500 (70% shared ownership)

DUDLEY ROAD BLAKENHALL

BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES. An extended Middle Terraced Former Dwelling House with a current planning use as a community day centre. Falls within the use classification of D1 "Non Residential Institutions" but it affords much potential for conversion back into a family home/subject to a change of planning use. Energy rating: D

Offers are invited (guide price only £85,000)

GROSVENOR PARK PENN

A particularly attractive and well presented first floor retirement flat holding a pleasant setting within this popular complex standing in delightfully landscaped grounds. Reception hall, lounge/dining area, refitted kitchen, double bedroom, deluxe shower room, electric heating, uPVC DG. There is a communal lounge, kitchen and laundry room. Guest suite available for families/visitors (subject to small charge). Viewing highly recommended. Energy rating: B

£65,500

www.teamprop.co.uk

Regulated by RICS

01902 712812
12/13 King Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ST
email: jacksonlileclose@btconnect.com

First floor apartment is immaculately presented

IMMACULATELY presented throughout, this compact self-contained first floor apartment in Oakwood Manor, Bloxwich has views over the adjoining King George V Memorial Playing fields.

It is for sale through Marrion & Co at £92,950.

It has gas central heating and double glazing a communal hall with entry com system, private hallway, attractive lounge, kitchen with gas hob, extractor, double oven, fridge and freezer and washing machine, boarded loft, master bedroom and bathroom, parking space and communal gardens.

Contact Marrion & co on 01922 404446 or visit www.marrion.co.uk

SPECTRUM ESTATE AGENTS

Local Agents, Online Prices

TIPTON

Three Bedrooms - Off-road Parking - Modern Family Bathroom - Spacious Lounge/ Dining Room - Front & Rear Gardens - Internal Storage - Entrance Porch - EPC Band C

£105,500

PENKRIDGE

Great Investment Potential - Three Bedrooms - Garage - Immaculate Condition- Modern Interior - Rear Garden - Nearby Transport Links - Quality Local Schools - EPC Band C

£136,500

WILLENHALL

Three Bedrooms - Extended Kitchen - Dining Area - Front & Rear Gardens - Off-road Parking - Family Bathroom - Stylish Interior - EPC Band E - Viewing Highly Recommended

£122,500

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K. Stuart Swash

DRAYCOTT, CLAVERLEY

Within a delightful country hamlet, an unique and charming bungalow set amidst spacious grounds which offer much scope for extension (stpp). The accommodation, which benefits from central heating and majority double glazing, is beautifully presented and offers fully enclosed Porch, spacious Entrance Hall, lovely Lounge with Dining Area, excellent Kitchen, Sun Lounge opening to large Rear Loggia, Two Bedrooms, well appointed Bathroom, Garage, lovely Gardens with open aspect beyond, Greenhouse, Workshop. epc: E40

£345,900

UPPER LEA, WALL HILL, Nr. CLAVERLEY

A truly magnificent location with superb open views across Shropshire countryside provides the perfect setting for this impressive and spacious Barn Conversion, currently designed as two individual but inter-connecting units which would easily convert to offer one exceedingly spacious home. There is much character throughout and a superb Garden / Party Room with fine First Floor Balcony Lounge. Four Bedrooms, Two Bathrooms, well appointed Kitchens, Two Sitting Rooms – charming Garden Retreat overlooking attractive Gardens bordering open fields. epc: D63 J.S.A. Berriman Eaton.

OFFERS AROUND £675,000

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email: swashauctions@btconnect.com www.kstuartswash.co.uk

KIER

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act now, new releases

Hurry as The Birches is proving to be a popular development. Newly released 3 bedroom homes, with an **amazing furniture pack included**,* start from only **£110,396**^ through **Help to Buy** *(full purchase price £137,995)*. **Reserve yours today for just £99***.

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Help to Buy

WhatHouse? AWARDS 2014

your home, your location

Photograph of typical Kier showhome lounge. *Available on selected plots, subject to terms and conditions. ^ Help to Buy is available upon request subject to terms and conditions.

Extended semi-detached has landscaped gardens

TASTEFULLY presented, this three-bed semi-detached house in Norton Road, Stourbridge has been extended and has extensive landscaped gardens.

Directly opposite Mary Stevens Park, it is for sale through Scriven & Co at £295,000.

It has a porch, reception hall with herringbone pattern block flooring, WC, lounge with a feature fireplace, an extended living room with dining and sitting areas and French doors, kitchen with gas hob, extractor, oven/grill, tall storage unit housing fridge and freezer, washing machine, dishwasher, breakfast bar.

There are three bedrooms and a bathroom.

For further information contact Scriven & Co Estate Agents on 0121 4224011 or visit www.scriven.co.uk

Two-bed terraced is available to rent

THIS delightful two-bedroomed terraced house in High Street, Wordsley lies in a prominent location.

Having a traditional frontage, it is available to rent through Town & Country at £500 pcm unfurnished.

With gas central heating, double glazing, decked rear garden and gravelled driveway affording off road parking it has a lounge with a feature fireplace, breakfast kitchen with light wood units, oven, hob, extractor and understairs storage.

There are two bedrooms (one with a built-in wardrobe) and a bathroom with a white suite and laminate flooring.

For further details contact Town & Country on 01384 444855 or visit www.townandcountrypropertyservices.co.uk

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AUCTION

30th April 2015

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Investment Property Split into 2 Apartments
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Guide: £75,000 Plus

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Guide: £125,000 - £150,000

140 Penn Road, Wolverhampton
3 Bedroom Detached Property
Guide: £144,000 - £148,000

1 Whittaker Street, Wolverhampton
2 Bedroom End Terraced Property
Guide: £58,000-£63,000

26 Clarendon Street, Wolverhampton
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Guide: £300,000

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Wolverhampton

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Goodchilds FOR SALE

Goodchilds
Estate Agents & Lettings

Ednam Road, Wolverhampton

- DETACHED CONVERTED BUNGALOW
- SOUGHT AFTER AREA
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- FOUR RECEPTION ROOMS
- DOWNSTAIRS SHOWER ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN/DINER
- GAMES ROOM
- SIX BEDROOMS

Fixed £580,000

Himley Crescent, Wolverhampton

- CORNER PLOT
- GOLDTHORN PARK AREA
- DETACHED BUNGALOW
- TWO BEDROOMS
- TWO CONSERVATORIES
- FITTED KITCHEN

Offers in Excess of £300,000

Rosewood Gardens, Wolverhampton

- Spacious Detached Home
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Downstairs Study Room

In the region of £295,000

Jeremy Road, Wolverhampton

- CORNER PLOT
- DETACHED DORMA BUNGALOW
- SPACIOUS THROUGHOUT
- KITCHEN
- LOUNGE
- DINING ROOM

In the region of £265,000

Gorsemoor Way, Wolverhampton

- Five Bedrooms
- Porch & Hallway
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Large Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Downstairs WC
- Modern Bathroom

OIRO £250,000

Birmingham New

- FOUR BEDROOMS
- SEMI DETACHED
- FRONT DRIVEWAY
- SPACIOUS LOUNGE
- DINING ROOM
- UTILITY

OIRO £220,000

Pentland Gardens, Wolverhampton

- 4 Bedrooms
- Detached
- Spacious Lounge / Diner
- Kitchen
- Off Road Parking
- Ensuite to Master Bedroom

Offers in Excess of £199,500

Wickham Gardens, Wolverhampton

- DETACHED HOUSE
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN/DINER
- CONSERVATORY
- PLAYROOM

OIRO £175,000

Oxley Moor Road, Wolverhampton

- 4 Bedrooms
- Semi Detached
- Loft Room
- Modern Fitted Kitchen
- Spacious Lounge
- Diner

OIRO £174,950

Chetwynd Road, Wolverhampton

- SEMI DETACHED
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- SPACIOUS LOUNGE
- FITTED KITCHEN
- THREE BEDROOMS
- FAMILY BATHROOM

Offers in Excess of £155,000

Calvin Close, Wolverhampton

- Semi Detached Bungalow
- Double Glazed
- Gas Central Heating
- Off Road Parking
- Two Bedrooms
- One Reception Room

£149,995

Stafford Road, Wolverhampton

- SEMI DETACHED
- THREE BEDROOMS
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- Double Glazing
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING

OIRO £139,995

Wanderers Avenue, Wolverhampton

- Terraced
- Entrance hallway
- Three reception rooms
- Kitchen
- Downstairs W.C
- Downstairs Shower room

OIRO £135,000

Woden Avenue, Wolverhampton

- SEMI DETACHED
- CLOSE TO LOCAL AMENITIES
- THREE BEDROOMS
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- LOUNGE
- FITTED KITCHEN

OIRO £129,950

Chester Street, WOLVERHAMPTON

- Semi Detached
- Entrance hallway
- Extended living room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Downstairs W.C
- Three Bedrooms

OIRO £124,950

Bell Street, Bilston

- SEMI DETACHED
- BUNGALOW
- ONE BEDROOM
- BATHROOM
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN

OIRO £122,500

Moreton Road, Wolverhampton

- SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LIVING ROOM
- KITCHEN
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- DOUBLE GLAZING

£119,995

Armstead Road, Wolverhampton

- Semi detached
- Two double bedrooms
- Spacious modern kitchen
- Low maintenance garden
- Driveway
- Double glazed

OIRO £119,950

Waite Road, Willenhall

- SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- WILLENHALL AREA
- THREE BEDROOMS
- FITTED BATHROOM
- OPEN PLAN LOUNGE/DINER
- FITTED KITCHEN

OIRO £115,000

Upper Ettingshall Road, Bilston

- Mid Terraced Property
- Reception Hallway
- Two Reception rooms
- Fitted kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom

OIRO £113,000

Cromwell Road, Wolverhampton

- NO CHAIN!
- MID TERRACED
- PORCH
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- THROUGH LOUNGE
- FITTED KITCHEN

£112,500

Ryton Close, Wolverhampton

- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Through Lounge
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Wet Room
- Family Bathroom

OIRO £105,000

St. Edmunds Close, Wolverhampton

- NO UPWARD CHAIN!
- END TERRACE
- CLOSE TO AMENITIES
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- FITTED KITCHEN

£99,950

Damson Wharf, Tipton

- Three Bedroom Three Storey
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Family Bathroom & Downstairs WC
- One Sold, Two Left!
- Double Glazing and Gas Central Heating
- Off Road Parking & Garage
- Will Bring £560PCM

Offers in Excess of £88,000

Fisher Street, Wolverhampton

- WELL PRESENTED
- SPACIOUS THROUGHOUT
- LOUNGE
- DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN
- SHOWER ROOM

£79,995

Barley Close, Wolverhampton

- GROUND FLOOR FLAT
- ONE BEDROOM
- REFITTED KITCHEN
- STORAGE ROOMS
- FRONT GARDEN
- DOUBLE GLAZED

Offers in Excess of £63,000

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Wednesfield

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Goodchilds
Estate Agents & Lettings

Paxton Avenue, Wolverhampton
- Three Bedroomed Semi Detached
- Two Reception Rooms
- Master Ensuite
- Popular Area Of Perton
- Sorry No DHSS
-

Monthly Rental Of £625

Spondon Road, Wolverhampton
- Three Good Sized Bedrooms
- Large Reception Rooms
- Semi Detached Property
- Off Road Parking
- Garage
- SORRY NO DHSS

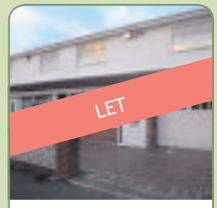
Monthly Rental Of £625

Chetwynd Road, Wolverhampton
- SEMI DETACHED
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- SPACIOUS LOUNGE
- FITTED KITCHEN
- THREE BEDROOMS
- FAMILY BATHROOM

Monthly Rental Of £595

Marholm Close, Wolverhampton
- Three Bedrooms
- Well Presented Throughout
- Semi-Detached
- Modern Bathroom
- Rear Garden with Far Reaching Views
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £575



Duke Street, Wolverhampton
- Three Bedrooms
- Modern Fitted Kitchen
- Rear Garden
- Garage
- Off Road Parking
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £575

Milton Road, Wolverhampton
- Entrance Hallway
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Study / Playroom
- Three Bedrooms

Monthly Rental Of £575

Court Road, Wolverhampton
- Entrance Hallway
- Lounge
- Modern Fitted Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Front & Rear Garden

Monthly Rental Of £575

Waterside Close, Wolverhampton
- Three Bedrooms
- Master Ensuite
- Off Road Parking
- Garage
- Rear Garden
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £585

Uplands Road, Willenhall
- Entrance Hall
- Large Lounge / Diner
- Large Conservatory
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Three Bedrooms

Monthly Rental Of £550

Falcon Lodge,
- Two Bedroom Apartment
- Fitted Kitchen
- Off Road Parking
- Ground Floor
- Rear Garden
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £450

Leicester Street, Wolverhampton
- Three Bed Mid Terrace
- 2x Receptions
- Fitted Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Rear Garden
- DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £450

Victoria Street, Willenhall
- Two Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Downstairs Bathroom
- Good Sized Rooms
- DHSS ACCEPTED

Monthly Rental Of £425

Gough Street, Willenhall
- Three Bedrooms
- Rear Garden
- Fitted Kitchen
- New Carpets Througout
- One Reception Room
- DHSS ACCEPTED

Monthly Rental Of £450

Prestwood Road, Wolverhampton
- Entrance Hallway
- Lounge / Newly Fitted Kitchen
- Newly Fitted Bathroom
- Two Bedrooms
- Double Glazing
- DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £400

High Street, Wolverhampton
- One Bedroom
- Spacious Lounge
- Bathroom
- Fitted Kitchen
- Popular Location
- DHSS ACCEPTED

Monthly Rental Of £375

Weyhill Close, Wolverhampton
- ONE BED STUDIO FLAT
- First Floor
- Fitted Kitchen
- Shower Room
- Dressing Room
- Communal Garden

Monthly Rental Of £350

Cross Street, Willenhall
- Located in the Town Centre
- One Bedroom
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Electric Heating

Monthly Rental Of £325

Keats Road, Wolverhampton
- Entrance Hallway
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Guest Cloakroom
- Bathroom
- Three Bedrooms

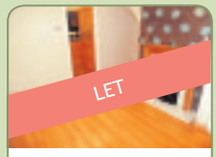
Monthly Rental Of £565

Speedwell Close, Wolverhampton
- Two Bedroomed Modern Property
- Popular Cul de Sac Location
- Two Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Large Garden
- Available Mid July

Monthly Rental Of £550

Hough Way, Wolverhampton
- Two Bedroom Apartment
- Fitted Kitchen
- Allocated Parking
- Close To Primary Schools
- Popular Location
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £525



Marden Close, Willenhall
- Modern Two Bedroomed Home
- Large Lounge
- Modern Kitchen
- Modern Bathroom
- Large Rear Garden
- Available Early September 2014

Monthly Rental Of £525.00

Weston Drive, Bilston
- Modern Two Bed Apartment
- Canal Views
- Modern Kitchen
- Modern Bathroom
- Available Immediately
- Sorry No DHSS

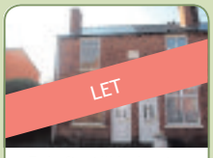
Monthly Rental Of £495.00

Birmingham New Road, Bilston
- Two Bedrooms
- Ground Floor Apartment
- All Kitchen Appliances
- Secure Entrance
- Allocated Parking
- DHSS ACCEPTED

Monthly Rental Of £480

Chiltern Drive, Willenhall
- Two Bedrooms
- Cul-De-Sac Location
- Study Room
- Rear Garden
- No Pets
- DHSS ACCEPTED

Monthly Rental Of £475



Taylor Street, Wolverhampton
- Two Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Large Rear Garden
- Near Wednesfield Park
- Sorry No DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £475

Elder Grove, Wolverhampton
- Modern Apertment
- Walking distance to New Cross Hospital
- Secure Off Road Parking
- Fitted Kitchen with Cooker
- SORRY NO DHSS
-

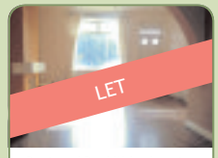
Monthly Rental Of £475

Gomer Street, Gomer Street
- One Bedroom
- Penthouse Apartment
- Fantastic Views
- All Kitchen Appliances
- FURNISHED
- Sorry No DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £450

Ettymore Close, Dudley
- Two Bedrooms
- Refurbished throughout
- Modern Kitchen
- Double Bedrooms
- Option To Rent Garage Through Council
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £425



Prestwood Road, Wolverhampton
- Two Bedrooms
- Large Lounge
- Rear Yard
- Shower Room
- Gas Central Heating
- DHSS ACCEPTED

Monthly Rental Of £425

Third Avenue, Wolverhampton
- Three Bedrooms
- Detached Property
- Off Road Parking
- Good Sized Rear Garden
- Garage
- DHSS ACCEPTED

Monthly Rental Of £425.00

Connaught Road, Wolverhampton
- Two Bedrooms
- First Floor Flat
- Secure Buzzer Entrance
- Entrance Hall
- Gas Central Heating
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £425.00

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Double fronted home in need of some updating

THIS double fronted four-bedroomed mid-terrace house in Persehouse Street, Walsall is in need of a bit of upgrading yet has a host of original features.

It is for sale through Fraser Wood at £178,000.

With gas central heating it has a reception hall with a cellar off, a lounge with a feature fireplace and double doors to the garden, a dining kitchen with a wood burner, ceramic floor tiling and a Belfast sink, utility, bathroom with a roll top bath, four bedrooms, shower room and a garden.

For further information contact Fraser Wood on 01922 627686 or visit www.fraser-wood.co.uk

Refurbished terraced perfect first time buy

THIS refurbished three-bedroomed end of terrace house in Beacon Street, Walsall would be ideal for a first time buyer.

It is for sale through Paul Dubberley at offers in excess of £110,000 with no chain.

With double glazing and gas central heating it has a re-fitted kitchen with a gas hob, extractor hood and breakfast bar and a re-fitted bathroom.

It also has a front reception room, rear reception room, inner lobby and two bedrooms, forecourt and a rear yard area and garden with lawn and a patio.

For further information contact Paul Dubberley on 01922 241100 or visit www.pauldubberley.co.uk

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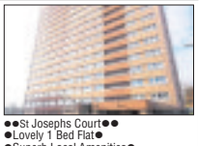
WOODSETTON

●Vicarage Rd West●
●1 Bed Ground Floor Flat●
●Gas C/H & D/G - Epc Band C●
●Modern Fitted Shower Room●
●Fitted Kitchen●
●Potential Long Term●
●Available Early June Unfurnished

Rent £350.00 P.C.M

MERRY HILL



●●St Josephs Court●●
●Lovely 1 Bed Flat●
●Superb Local Amenities●
●D/G & Electric Heating●
●Modern Fitted Kitchen●
●Bathroom With Shower●
●Available Immediately●

Rent £380.00 P.C.M

TETTENHALL

●●Willowdale Grange●●
●Lovely 1 Bed Flat●
●Superb & Quiet Location●
●Electric Heating●
●Private Parking Space●
●Good Local Amenities●
●Available May - Unfurnished●

Rent £395.00 P.C.M

WILLENHALL

●●Circuit Close●●
●Lovely 1 Bed House●
●Modern Fitted Kitchen●
●Bathroom With Shower●
●Double Glazing●
●Off Road Parking●
●Available Now - epc D

Rent £400.00 P.C.M

TETTENHALL

●●Lower Street●●
●Lovely 1 Bed Flat●
●Spacious Lounge●
●Bathroom With Shower●
●Excellent Location●
●Ground Floor●
●Available Now Unfurnished●

Rent £425.00 P.C.M

NEWBRIDGE

●●Newbridge Street●●
●2 Bed Ground FLoor Flat●
●Private Rear Garden●
●Gas Central Heating●
●Easy Access To The City●
●Available April●

Rent £425.00 P.C.M

COMPTON

●●Bridgnorth Rd●●
●Lovely 2 Bed Flat●
●Excellent Local Amenities●
●Gas C/H & D/G●
●Modern Fitted Kitchen●
●Shower Room●
●Available Now - Unfurnished●

Rent £450.00 P.C.M

CITY CENTRE

●●Worcester Street●●
●Lovely 3 Bed Apartment●
●Modernised Throughout●
●Gas Central Heating●
●Private Rear Courtyard●
●Ideal For The City●
●Available Now Unfurnished●

Rent £499.00 P.C.M

MERRIDALE

●●Yew Street●
●Modern Style 2 Bed Semi●
●Gas C/H & D/G●
●Bathroom With Shower●
●Spacious Lounge●
●Rear Garden & Driveway●
●Available Late April●

Rent £525.00 P.C.M

FINCHFIELD

●●Washington House●●
●Superb 2 Bed Apartment●
●Modern Fitted Kitchen●
●Bathroom With Shower●
●Excellent Location●
●Off Road Parking●
●Available Now Furnished●

Rent £550.00 P.C.M

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MERRY HILL

●●Tibberton Close●●
●Well Presented 3 Bed House●
●Gas C/H & D/G - EPC D●
●Fitted Kitchen●
●Bathroom With Shower●
●Excellent Amenities Nearby●
●Available May Unfurnished●

Rent £550.00 P.C.M

BRADMORE

●●Trysull Road●●
●3 Double Bedrooms●
●D/G & Gas C/H●
●Modern Fitted Kitchen●
●New Fitted Bathroom●
●Available Now●
●Unfurnished epc E●

Rent £580.00 P.C.M

SEDGLEY

●●Dudley Street●●
●Stunning 2 Bed Apartment●
●Secure Gated Parking●
●Gas Central Heating●
●Excellent Amenities●
●Available Mid April unfurnished●

Rent £595.00 P.C.M

CASTLECROFT

●●Chelmarsh Avenue●●
●Well Presented 3 Bed House●
●Gas C/H & D/G - EPC D ●
●Excellent Location●
●Secure Gated Rear Parking●
●Front & Rear Gardens●
●Available Now - Unfurnished●

Rent £625.00 P.C.M

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Sneyd Lane
New

Essington
- Five Bed Detached
- Contemporary Living
- Three Bathrooms
- Open Plan Kitchen Diner

£415,000 EPC=TBA

Winchester Road

Fordhouses
- Three Bed Semi
- Fitted Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Ideal Family Purchase

£135,000 EPC=TBA

Claverly Drive

Penn
- 3 Bed Semi
- Garage and Driveway
- Close to Local Amenities
- Enclosed Rear Garden

£114,950 EPC=TBA

Glyme Drive
New

Tettenhall
- Detached Bungalow
- Three Bedrooms
- Open Plan Corner Garden
- Planning permission convert 4x 2 Bed Flats

£179,950 EPC=D

Hillside Gardens
New

Wolverhampton
- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Ample Off Road Parking
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Close to Local Amenties

£110,000 EPC=D

Market Lane
New

Lower Penn
- Extended Three Bedroom Semi
- Off-road Parking
- Downstairs Shower Room
- Beautiful Views

£230,000 EPC=TBA

Moat Green Avenue
New

Wednesfield
- Three Bedroom Mid Terrace
- Refiited Breakfast Kitchen
- Quiet Cul-De-Sac Location
- Well Maintain Garden

£109,950 EPC=D

Rosneath Close
New

Lanesfield
- Three Bed Semi Detached
- Fitted Breakfast Kitchen
- Master Bedroom with En-Suite
- 2 Secure Parking Spaces

£160,000 EPC=C

Burnsall Close
New

Pendeford
- 4 Bed Detached House
- Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- En-suite

£230,000 EPC=D

Goldby Drive
New

- Modern 3-storey townhouse
- Three bathrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazing

£141,950 EPC=C

Leslie Road
New

Wolverhampton
- Mid Terrace
- Two Reception Rooms
- Two Bedrooms
- Investment Potential
- Close to City Centre
- Family Bathroom

£84,950 EPC=TBA

Mount Road
New

Penn
- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Spacious Living Area
- Enclosed Garden

£199,950 EPC=E

Oval Drive
New

Fordhouses
- Two Bed Mid Terrace
- Allocated Parking
- Ideal for Young Family
- Popular Location

£119,950 EPC=C

Paget Road
New

Wolverhampton
- Four Bedrooms End Terrace
- Period Property
- Kitchen Breakfast Room
- Close to City Centre

£199,950 EPC=E

Sedgley Road
New

Penn Common
- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Drive and Garages
- Close to Penn Common

£320,000 EPC=E

Sandford Rise
New

Claregate
- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Popular Quiet Location
- Beautiful Views
- Garage
- Outbuildings

£134,950 EPC=TBA

First Avenue
New

- CASH PURCHASE ONLY
- Three Bedroom
- Mid Terrace
- In need of full Modernisation

£69,950 EPC=TBA

Crane Terrace
New

Tettenhall
- Highly Modernised Throughout
- Quiet Location
- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Beautiful Rear Garden
- Refitted Kitchen
- Refitted Bathroom

£169,950 EPC=TBA

Goldthorn Hill
New

Goldthorn
- Detached House
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Popular Location

£235,000 EPC=E

Jameson Street
New

Wolverhampton
- Two Bedroom Mid Terrace
- Investment Opportunity
- Close To City Centre
- Two Reception Rooms

£89,950 EPC=TBA

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LOWER PENN

A most impressive and stunning individually designed detached family property set well back from the road and occupying one of the largest plots on Radford Lane. Having been restyled by the present owners with no expense spared to create a most impressive high standard of luxury accommodation, viewing is highly recommended to appreciate this most individual property being a superb example of its type.

Magnificent Spacious Entrance Hall * Sitting Room * Separate Dining Room * Charming Living Room * Superb Open Plan Bespoke Kitchen with Family Area * Utility * Striking Galleried Landing * Stunning Family Bathroom * Master Bedroom with Ensuite & Balcony * Guest Bedroom with walk in wardrobe & Ensuite * Further Two Bedrooms with Jack & Jill Ensuite * Swimming Pool with Gymnasium Area & Shower Room * Sauna Room with Second Utility Room * Two Separate Garages * Approx. 1 Acre of Magnificent Landscaped Private Gardens * EPC Rating D

Five Oaks, Radford Lane - £895,000

TETTENHALL

A most distinctive extended detached property situated in one of the most sought after locations in Tettenhall, this excellent example of a family house must be inspected to appreciate the well-appointed living accommodation.

Reception Porch to Entrance Hall * Front Sitting/ Dining Room * Extended Rear Living Room * Fitted Kitchen with matching suite of units & integrated appliances * Utility * Fitted Cloakroom * Garage * Galleried Landing * Three Bedrooms * Refitted Smart Family Bathroom * Mature Surrounding Landscaped Gardens * Gas Central Heating & Mainly Double Glazing * EPC Rating D

118 Woodthorne Road South - £289,950

TETTENHALL

An individually designed detached property occupying a generous corner plot in a sought after residential area, this good size family house has been extended and restyled to provide extremely spacious living accommodation and also has the benefit of a self-contained annexe at the side of the house ideal for aged relatives. Incorporating a number of attractive features throughout including:

Spacious Entrance Hall with Cloaks & WC * Living Room * Feature Conservatory * Separate Dining Room * Breakfast Kitchen with matching suite of units & Range Cooker * Access to Annexe Kitchen, Living Room, Bedroom, Bathroom & Entrance Hall * Main House First Floor Landing with Study Area * Three Double Bedrooms * Bathroom with Separate WC * Integrated Garage * Good Size Driveway with Detached Garage * Mature Landscaped Rear Garden * GCH & MDG * EPC Rating D

4 Yew Tree Lane - £535,000

TETTENHALL

Originally dating back to the 19thCentury occupying a choice position set well back off the road this most distinctive and detached house is a superb example of a good size family house incorporating a host of attractive & period features throughout.

Canopy Porch* Entrance Hall * Cloakroom * Study * Magnificent Open Plan Living Room with Dining Area * Sitting Room * Superior Breakfast Kitchen with luxury units & Range Aga Cooker * Utility * Landing with Stained Glass Window * Four Bedrooms * Ensuite Shower Room * Victorian Family Bathroom * Detached Double Width Garage * Private Mature Surrounding Gardens * GCH * EPC Rating E

5 Tyninghame Avenue - £450,000

COMPTON

Occupying a choice position on a popular modern development this detached property is within walking distance of Compton Village and is also convenient for easy access to the city centre. Extended to utilise the maximum space providing spacious living accommodation, the interior is ideal for purchasers requiring a property to restyle to own requirements:

Entrance Hall * Front Sitting/ Dining Room * Kitchen * Extended Rear Living Room * Inner Hall * Downstairs Bedroom * Cloakroom * First Floor Landing * Master Bedroom with Ensuite * Further Bedroom & Bathroom * Garage * Enclosed Mature Rear Garden * Warm Air Central Heating & Mainly Double Glazing * EPC Rating E

45 Cherrington Gardens - £194,950

PENN COMMON

Constructed to an individual design providing spacious living accommodation this modern detached bungalow occupies a delightful location adjacent to Penn Common yet convenient for the majority of amenities and access to principal towns. The gas centrally heated & mainly double glazed interior includes:

Reception Porch to Entrance Hall * Good Size Living Room * Separate Dining Room * Double Glazed Conservatory * Fitted Kitchen with white suite & integrated appliances * Utility * Cloakroom * Inner Hall * Bathroom * Separate WC & Shower Room * Three Bedrooms * Detached Double Garage * Picturesque Rear Outlook overlooking Stream & Woodland * EPC D

Woodhaven - £375,000

TETTENHALL

Occupying a choice location in a much sought after residential area, this individually designed detached residence has been thoughtfully extended and restyled by the present owners to create an extremely spacious and versatile family home.

Reception Porch to Entrance Hall * Fitted Cloakroom * Open Plan Living Room with Dining Area * Fitted Kitchen with matching suite of white units & integrated appliances * Double Glazed Conservatory * Garage with Utility Area & Rear Lobby * First Floor Galleried Landing * Three Bedrooms * Two Ensuites * Study * Family Bathroom * Mature Landscaped Rear Garden * EPC D

152 Wergs Road - £375,000

TETTENHALL

Attractive terraced property thoughtfully restyled by the present owners to create a most attractive and contemporary interior situated in a popular residential area, viewing is highly recommended to appreciate this excellent example of its type.

Double Glazed Reception Porch to Entrance Hall * Through Living Room * Breakfast Kitchen with smart matching suite of units * Landing * Three Bedrooms * Bathroom with White Suite * Enclosed Rear Garden with Brick Stores * Off Road Parking * Gas Central Heating & Mainly Double Glazing * EPC Rating D

98 Cornwall Road - £155,000

FINCHFIELD

Situated in one of the most sought after road in Finchfield this individuality designed four bedroom detached property has the benefit of a good size mature rear garden and is a fine example of a family house. The spacious and versatile interior includes:

Situated in one of the most sought after road in Finchfield this individuality designed four bedroom detached property has the benefit of a good size mature rear garden and is a fine example of a family house. The spacious and versatile interior includes: Porch to Charming Entrance Hall * Fitted Cloak/shower Room * Living Room * Sitting Room * Separate Dining Room * Breakfast Kitchen with matching suite of units * Utility * Spacious Landing with Feature Stained Glass Leaded Window * Four Bedrooms * Family Bathroom * Separate WC * Garage * Mature Good Size Landscaped Rear Garden * GCH & DG * EPC Rating E

39 Meadow Road - £345,000

TETTENHALL WOOD

Situated in a popular residential area convenient for easy access to Tettenhall Wood Shops, this detached modern bungalow offers spacious and versatile living accommodation with a number of features throughout. Screened from the road the accommodation further comprises:

Entrance Hall * Fitted Cloakroom * Good Size Living Room * Dining Room * Conservatory * Kitchen with matching suite of units * Rear Lobby with Stores * Inner Hall * Bathroom * Three Bedrooms * Detached Double Width Garage * Private & Enclosed Rear Garden * Gas Centrally Heated & Mainly Double Glazed * EPC Rating D

45 Mount Road - £299,950

TETTENHALL

Tremendous potential exists for purchasers requiring a house to restyle to own requirements this traditional semi-detached property is a fine example of a family home occupying a popular location convenient for the majority of amenities including schools and shops.

Entrance Hall * Open Plan Living Room with Dining Area * Fitted Kitchen with matching suite of units * Utility * Downstairs WC * Landing * Three Bedrooms * Bathroom with coloured suite * Driveway to Detached Garage * Enclosed Rear Garden * Part Gas Centrally Heated & Mainly Double Glazed * EPC Rating E

4 Woodland Avenue - £155,000

COVEN

Constructed to a well-planned design utilising the maximum space and providing excellent family accommodation in a small select development on the outskirts of Coven Village this modern detached house is conveniently located for access to the motorway and commuting to principal towns.

Entrance Hall * Fitted Kitchen with matching suite of units & built in Cooker * Charming Living Room * Dining Room with archway to feature Double Glazed Conservatory * Landing * Three Bedrooms * Two Bathroom * Garage with Utility * Enclosed Landscaped Rear Garden * Gas Central Heating & Mainly Double Glazing * EPC Rating D

17 Penkside - £247,500

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- Spacious Rear Garden

OIRO £379,995

Dudley
Nith Place

- 4 Bed Detached
- Fitted Wardrobes In All Bedrooms
- En- Suite Bathroom
- 2 Walk-In Showers ● Utility Room

OIRO £224,995

Moseley Green
Blackbrook Way

- Three Bed Detached
- Recently Extended Front and Back
- Spacious Kitchen With Breakfast Island
- Jacuzzi Bath ● Walk-In Shower ● Cul-De-Sac Location

OIRO £189,950

Bradmore
Rowan Crescent

- Three Bed Detached
- Open Plan Kitchen/ Diner
- Downstairs Walk-In Shower
- Two Family Bathrooms ● Security System

OIRO £184,995

Bilston
Constantine Way

- Three Bedroom Detached
- Conservatory
- En-suite bathroom
- Utility stairs ● Down Stairs study

OIRO £184,995

Moseley Meadows
Wychall Drive

- Three Bed Link-Detached
- Fitted Kitchen ● Dining Area
- Utility Room
- Downstairs WC ● Sun Room

OIRO £164,950

Wednesfield
Barbel Drive

- Three Bedroom Link Detached
- Downstairs WC ● En-suite
- No upward chain
- Off Road Parking

OIRO £159,995

Bradmore
Oxbarn Avenue

- Three Bed Semi
- Open plan Kitchen/ Diner
- L Shaped Family Bathroom
- Intergrated Double Oven ● Front Lawned Area

OIRO £159,995

Pendeford Park
Daisy Walk

- Three Bed Detached
- Kitchen / Diner
- Downstairs WC
- Cul-De-Sac ● Corner Plot

OIRO £149,995

Featherstone
Sanderling Close

- Three Bed Detached
- Newly Fitted Bathroom
- Open Plan Lounge/Diner
- Cul-De-Sac ● Spacious Driveway

OIRO £149,995

Bilston
Willenhall Road

- Three Bedroom Semi
- Two reception rooms ● Extended Kitchen/ Diner ● Downstairs WC ● Utility

OIRO £144,995

Wednesfield
Prestwood Avenue

- Three Bedroom Semi ● Spacious Driveway
- Lounge / Diner ● Breakfast Kitchen ● Double Glazed

OIRO £124,995

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Oxley
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- Three Bed Semi
- Two Reception Rooms
- No Upward Chain
- Investment Opportunity ● Rear Detached Garage

OIRO £124,995

Bushbury
Cromwell Road

- Three Bed Terraced
- Conservatory
- Utility ● Downstairs WC
- Double Glazed Porch

OIRO £124,995

Ashmore Park
Bargery Road

- Three Bed Semi
- Porchway
- Spacious rear garden with decked area
- Walk in Shower ● Fitted Kitchen

OIRO £114,999

Wolverhampton
Talbot Road

- Three Bed Terraced
- Three Double Sized Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Porch ● Separate WC

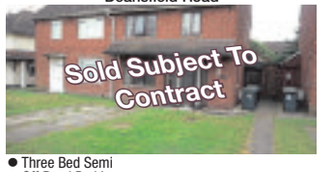
OIRO £114,995

Wolverhampton
Poplar Street

- 3 bed Terraced
- Utility Room
- Attic Room
- Multi Fuel Fire ● Security System

OIRO£110,000

East Park
Deansfield Road



- Three Bed Semi
- Off Road Parking
- Newly Fitted Kitchen
- Lounge/Diner ● Investment Opportunity

OIRO £109,995

Oxley
Kyle Close

- Three Bed End Terrace
- Cul-de-sac location
- Communal Parking To Rear
- Fitted Kitchen/Diner ● No Upward Chain

OIRO £109,995

Bushbury
Moreton Road

- Two Bed Semi
- Two Reception Rooms
- Walk in Shower
- Downstairs WC ● Corner Plot

OIRO £99,995

Fallings Park
Burncross Way

- Two Bedroom Semi
- Newly Fitted Kitchen
- Conservatory ● Cul-de-Sac Location
- Spacious Block Paved Driveway

OIRO £99,995

Darlaston
Mill Street

- Two Bed Ground Floor Apartment
- Communal Parking
- Open Plan Lounge/Diner
- Chain Free ● Investment Opportunity

OIRO £89,995

Wednesfield
Henfield Close

- Two Bed End Town House
- Cul-De-Sac ● Double Glazed Porch
- Refitted Bathroom
- Garage With Additional Parking

OIRO £89,995

Wednesfield
Woodend Road

- Two Bed Ground Floor Flat
- Communal Parking
- Private Rear Garden
- Separate WC ● No Upward Chain

OIRO £89,995

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74 WORCESTER STREET, WOLVERHAMPTON, WEST MIDLANDS WV2 4LE

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Bungalow set around a meadow near to riverside

A SPACIOUS detached bungalow, Larpen, Severn Meadow, Astley Burf, Stourport-On-Severn is close to the riverside and adjoins fields.

It is for sale through the estate agent Allan Morris Estate Agents at £285,000 with no upward chain.

With double glazing and oil central heating the home lies in an enclave of individual bungalows set around a central meadow with a pond.

With off-road parking for three/four cars and a double garage it has a lounge with a brick feature fireplace and sliding patio doors to the front, kitchen with a fridge, freezer, electric oven, hob and hood, conservatory, master bedroom with fitted furniture, second bedroom with wardrobes and a third bedroom, bathroom and gardens.

Contact 01299 825522 or go to www.allan-morris.co.uk

Victorian home with character features

NUMBER 54 Bewdley Road, Kidderminster is an extensive three storey Victorian residence with character features, parking and a long rear garden.

It is for sale through Andrew Grant at £172,950.

It has an entrance hall with stairs off, sitting room with bay window, exposed floorboards and an impressive period fireplace, dining room with fireplace and exposed brickwork and French doors, breakfast kitchen with oven and hob and extractor, skylights, rear lobby and cellar.

Also two first floor bedrooms, bathroom, two second floor bedrooms (one en suite), parking, garage/garden store.

Contact Andrew Grant on 01562 60228 or www.andrew-grant.co.uk

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Nr WORFIELD

DALLICOTT ● Unique, privately positioned Barn Conversion in exclusive development outside Worfield between Wolverhampton and Bridgnorth ● Delightful rural position with stunning countryside views ● Set in grounds of 1 acre including huge garage of about 2000 sq. ft of interest to anyone requiring storage or parking for numerous vehicles ● Spacious layout incorporating original rustic features ● Dining Hall ● Guest's Cloaks/Shower Room ● Lounge with impressive inglenook fireplace and wood burner ● Bedroom 3/Study ● Country style Kitchen ● Utility ● Master Bedroom with En-Suite Bathroom ● Bedroom 2 with En-Suite ● Oil CH & double glazing ● Private drive & extensive parking.(EPC:D)

OFFERS AROUND £525,000

WOMBOURNE

SCHOOL ROAD ● Impressive 4 Bed detached period residence of particularly spacious proportions conveniently situated just off the picturesque village centre handy for all facilities with delightful southerly rear aspect ● Walking distance of schools of all grades ● Over 2,300 sq. ft of accommodation ● Four Reception Rooms ● Stylishly fitted Kitchen ● Four generous double Bedrooms, two with En-Suites ● Large House Bathroom ● Fitted Cloakroom ● Cellar ● Gravelled drive parking and Garage ● Established rear garden with high degree of privacy ● Gas CH and majority double glazed ● (EPC: D) ● ●Full interior inspection essential to appreciate size and layout! ● ●

OFFERS AROUND £375,000

PATTINGHAM

● Unique Detached Cottage in lovely setting on the outskirts of the village but within walking distance of its central amenities and facilities ● Exquisite accommodation of immense character and versatile three/four bedroom layout, blending quaint rustic features with a superb contemporary specification ● Reception/Dining Hall with adjacent Study Area ● 20ft Living Room with woodburner ● Sitting Room/Study/Bedroom four ● Stylish Kitchen with adjoining Utility/Laundry ● Ground floor Bedroom three/Office ● Beautifully appointed Bathroom ● Two first floor Bedrooms, one with elegant Shower Room en-suite ● Oil-fired central heating ● Double glazed windows ● Prettily landscaped formal gardens ● Extensive parking facilities ● Additional large lawned private garden area ● Overall plot size roughly one quarter of an acre (EPC: D)

OFFERS AROUND £365,000

WOMBOURNE

WOODLANDS ROAD ● Prominently positioned 3 Bed Detached Bungalow with Conservatory occupying a delightful corner plot within established surrounding off Sytch Lane ● Handy for access to the village centre facilities and public transport facilities on Common Road ● Roomy interior with Gas CH and uPVC double glazing ● Porch and Reception Hall; Elegant Lounge with exquisite marble fireplace and gas fire; adjoining Dining Area ● Stylishly fitted Kitchen with built-in appliances ● Separate Breakfast Room/Lobby with Shower Room/Cloakroom off; uPVC double glazed Conservatory ● 3 Bedrooms, two with wardrobes; Bathroom with shower ● Double Garage with electric door and double width block-paved driveway ● Easily manageable rear garden ● (EPC: tbc)

OFFERS AROUND £355,000

GOLDTHORN PARK

● Substantial Detached residence of exceptionally attractive appearance, impressively positioned in highly favoured neighbourhood ● Extended accommodation of very spacious layout, beautifully presented throughout with superbly refurbished specification ● Porch and Hall ● Bay-fronted Dining Room ● Excellent Lounge (approx 20' x 15') ● 19ft Breakfast Kitchen with elegant range of contemporary-style fittings and appliances ● Adjacent Laundry and fully fitted Cloaks/Shower Room ● Large Master Bedroom with Shower Room en-suite ● Three further generously proportioned Bedrooms ● Family Bathroom ● Gas-fired central heating ● Upvc-framed double-glazed windows ● 22ft Garage ● Extensive block-paved forecourt ● Lawned rear garden with westerly aspect ● (EPC: C)

OFFERS AROUND £314,950

CODSALL

● Elegant Detached residence enviably located in select cul-de-sac with easy access to village centre amenities and railway station ● Excellent accommodation, well suited to family occupation, presented and appointed most attractively ● Porch and Hall ● Fitted Cloakroom ● Two interlinking Living Rooms plus Conservatory ● Nicely fitted Kitchen ● Master Bedroom with fitted wardrobes and en-suite Shower Room ● Three further Bedrooms (all with wardrobes) ● Fully tiled Bathroom ● Gas-fired central heating ● Double glazed windows ● Double length Garaging (37ft overall) plus block-paved forecourt parking facilities ● Neatly landscaped gardens, southerly aspect to rear ● (EPC: C)

OFFERS AROUND £269,950

MERRY HILL

● Elegant Detached Bungalow prominently positioned on beautifully landscaped corner plot in much favoured neighbourhood with excellent amenities ● Attractively presented accommodation of comfortably proportioned layout and well appointed specification ● Porch and Hall ● Bay-fronted Living Room with feature fireplace ● Dining Kitchen ● Two Bedrooms ● Bathroom ● Gas-fired central heating ● Upvc-framed double glazed windows ● Garage plus forecourt parking facility ● Very pretty gardens to front, side and rear ● (EPC: D)

OFFERS AROUND £189,950

WOMBOURNE

PLANKS LANE ● Delightfully positioned traditional style 3 Bed Semi having recently undergone a scheme of updating and general modernisation ● Situated in established surroundings of popularity, handy for the excellent village facilities and close to schools ● Entrance Hall ● 24 ft Through Living Room with attractive fireplace and living flame gas fire ● Superbly refitted Kitchen ● Utility at rear of garage ● 3 good Bedrooms, one with wardrobes ● Refitted Bathroom with white suite ● Garage ● Gas CH and uPVC double glazing ● Off-Road Parking and neat garden to rear ● (EPC: D) ● ● NO UPWARD CHAIN ● ●

OFFERS AROUND £177,500

CASTLECROFT

● Elegant first floor Apartment in particularly attractive modern block within lovely mature landscaped setting on the western fringe of the conurbation ● Luxuriously appointed accommodation of comfortably proportioned layout and excellent contemporary specification ● Fine example of its type ● Stylish 27ft open plan Living Room incorporating impressively equipped Kitchen with range of integrated appliances ● Spacious Master Bedroom with built-in wardrobes and en-suite Shower Room ● Second double Bedroom with built-in wardrobe ● Smart white Bathroom ● Gas-fired central heating ● Double glazed windows ● Secure gated access to communal grounds including allocated parking facility ● Leasehold ● Ground Rent and Service Charge payable ● (EPC: B)

OFFERS AROUND £164,950

WOMBOURNE

BROOKSIDE CLOSE ● Superbly presented and stylishly updated modern style 3 Bed Mid-Terraced House in popular estate setting, handy for excellent village facilities and supermarket shopping ● Newly carpeted layout ● Entrance Lobby ● Lounge with attractive Adam style fireplace and electric fire ● Archway to: Dining Area ● Smartly refitted Kitchen with built-in oven, hob and cooker hood ● Sitting Room/Playroom ● 3 Bedrooms ● Luxuriously refitted Bathroom with white suite and shower ● Gas CH and uPVC double glazing ● Off-Road Parking to front ● Low maintenance Rear Garden ● (EPC: E) ● ●VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED - NO UPWARD CHAIN ● ●

OFFERS AROUND £134,950

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WOODLAND AVENUE TETTENHALL

- Well presented three bedroom semi-detached house
- Gas fired central heating and double glazed windows (where specified)
- Living room
- Modern Fitted kitchen
- Ground floor WC
- Spacious conservatory
- Small driveway
- Good sized rear garden
- EPC: TBA

PRICE: £160,000

BEECH CLOSE OXLEY

- Three bedroom Semi-Detached House
- No upward chain
- Gas fired central heating and double glazed windows (as specified)
- Conservatory
- Fitted kitchen
- Modern fitted shower room
- Enclosed garden
- Driveway
- SOLAR PANELS
- EPC RATING: C

PRICE: £140,000

SNAPE ROAD WEDNESFIELD

● Two Bedroom Terrace House ● Gas fired central heating and double glazed windows (as specified) ● Through Living Room ● Modern fitted Kitchen and Bathroom ● Driveway and enclosed rear garden ● Off road parking ● EPC RATING: D

PRICE: £117,000

ROTHESAY GARDENS LANESFIELD

● Two bedroom Second Floor Apartment with stair and lift access ● Excellent transport links ● Viewing highly recommended ● NO UPWARD CHAIN ● Gas fired central heating and double glazed windows (where specified) ● 18' Living Room ● Modern fitted kitchen ● Master bedroom with en-suite ● Allocated parking space ● EPC RATING: B

PRICE: 92,950

CORNWALL ROAD TETTENHALL

● Three bedroom Terrace house ● Gas fired central heating and double glazed windows (as specified) ● Through lounge ● Fitted breakfast kitchen ● Ground floor WC ● Well maintained gardens ● EPC RATING: C

PRICE: £126,000

WESTACRE CRESCENT FINCHFIELD

● One bedroom Ground Floor Flat ● NO UPWARD CHAIN ● Gas fired central heating and double glazed windows (where specified) ● Living room ● Modern fitted kitchen and bathroom ● FRONT AND REAR GARDENS ● EPC RATING: E

PRICE: 87,500

FINCHFIELD LANE FINCHFIELD

Notice Of Offer Property Address: 125 Finchfield Lane, Wolverhampton, WV3 8EY. We advise that an offer has been made for the above property in the sum of £263,000. Any persons wishing to increase on this offer should notify the agents of their best offer prior to exchange of contracts.
Agents Address:76 Darlington Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 4LY.
Agents Telephone Number: 01902 429035

DEANS ROAD DEANSFIELD

This property is for sale by a modern method of Auction which is not to be confused with traditional auction. The modern method of auction is a flexible buyer friendly method of purchase. Contact the agents for further details.
EPC RATING: F

STARTING BID: £25,000.00

HATELEY DRIVE LANESFIELD

One bedroom Ground Floor Flat ● No upward chain ● Gas fired central heating and double glazed windows (where specified) ● Living room ● Double Bedroom ● Bathroom ● Communal garden area ● EPC RATING: C.

PRICE: £55,000

THE MILL ALBION STREET

● One bedroom Ground Floor Apartment ● Unfurnished ● Double glazed windows and electric heating ● Open plan living room ● Kitchen with appliances including dishwasher ● Bedroom ● Bathroom with shower ● Parking space with gated access ● EPC RATING: D

RENT: £525PCM

ROTHESAY GARDENS LANESFIELD

● Two bedroom first floor apartment ● Unfurnished ● Gas fired central heating and double glazed windows ● Through living room ● Modern fitted kitchen ● Shower room ● Allocated parking space with gated access ● EPC RATING: C

RENT: £525PCM

ALBION STREET CITY CENTRE

● Two bedroom Apartments ● Furnished & Unfurnished available ● Electric heating ● Double glazed windows ● Living room and fitted kitchen ● Master bedroom with en-suite shower room ● Parking space ● EPC RATING: D

FROM: £525PCM

SHEPWELL GREEN WILLENHALL

● Two Bedroom Terrace House ● Unfurnished ● Gas fired central heating and double glazed windows ● Two reception rooms ● Newly fitted kitchen ● Utility room with WC ● Bathroom with shower ● EPC RATING: E

RENT: 510PCM

HATELEY DRIVE LANESFIELD

Notice Of Offer. Property Address: 9 Hateley Drive, Lanesfield, Wolverhampton, WV4 6SB. We advise that an offer has been made for the above property in the sum of £52,000. Any persons wishing to increase on this offer should notify the agents of their best offer prior to exchange of contracts.
Agents Address: Whitegates Estate Agency,76 Darlington Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 4LY. Agents Telephone Number: 01902 429035

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01902 429035
wolverhampton@whitegates.co.uk

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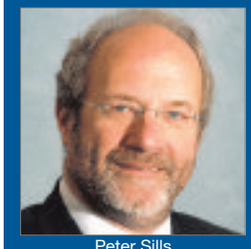
MARKET CONSTIPATION

The IMLA recently published research into housing market churn. The results are startling. In the 1980s turnover averaged 12% of stock with houses changing hands on average every 8yrs. So far this decade has seen churn averaging 4.5% which implies homes changing hands on average every 23 years! It all rather chimes with our recent "Bedroom Blocker" article. As we have said before, until we start building accommodation that is attractive to those in their golden years then they will simply sit tight and who can blame them?



Peter Sills

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*Applicants for rental properties are charged a non-refundable fee of £70.00 plus VAT each to cover credit checks and referencing.

PENN £349,950

PENN ROAD

In a private yet convenient location South of the city. This period family residence of early Victorian design demonstrates former grandeur though now needs a scheme of re-modernisation. The 5 bed, 3 reception room property benefits from a cellar system, additional breakfast and garden rooms, utility and garage. With NO CHAIN AND OFFERS INVITED (EPC 33 = F)

BILSTON £249,950

NEW

ALEXANDRA PLACE

Traditional style Detached family home on Mountford Estate within cul-de-sac, close to Villiers School. Also close to Town centre, Metro, Library and Bert Williams Centre. Versatile accommodation on offer with 4/5 Bedrooms. En-suite and family bathrooms plus guest cloaks/WC. Secluded garden and integral Garage. Gas Central heating and Double Glazing. (EPC 55 = D)

FINCHFIELD £189,995

NO UPWARD CHAIN

WESTHILL

Set in desirable Finchfield, to the west of W-ton. This 3 bed detached is offered with no upwards chain and offers a clean 'blank canvas' for any buyer. With offers invested for consideration – viewing is most highly recommended.(EPC 34 = F)

GOLDTHORN PARK £189,950

NO UPWARD CHAIN

ROSEMARY CRESCENT WEST

A spacious 3 bed semi of character. With 2 reception rooms, garage, kitchen and bathroom. DG and radiator CH (both where specified) plus generous sized driveway and southerly facing rear garden. Fixtures & fittings included. No upwards chain. Offers invited for consideration. (EPC 40 = E)

BILSTON £189,950

CUMBERLAND ROAD

On the Mountford Estate with good proximity to Bilston Centre and Local schools including Villiers and Moseley Park. This high quality family home enjoys spacious accommodation to include Three Bedrooms, Lounge/Dining Room, B'fast Kitchen with Utility/WC, plus Garage, and is fully deserving of internal inspection! It has the benefit of double glazing and gas central heating. (EPC 57 = D)

BILSTON £179,995

GEORGINA AVENUE

A spacious detached bungalow in a convenient position in this popular area accessible to Bilston, Dudley and Wolverhampton. Not far from the Black Country Route and the Metro, the latter being 10 to 15 minutes walk away. It has Three Bedrooms and has gas fired central heating with radiators, double glazing and occupies a large rectangular shaped plot. (EPC 57 = D)

WILLENHALL £169,000

YALE ROAD

A modern three bedroom detached residence conveniently located for a range of local amenities including schools, road networks (convenient for the M6 and Black Country Route) and with ease of access to nearby Willenhall, Wolverhampton and Walsall. Benefits from rad CH & DG and detached garage. (EPC 72 = C)

FINCHFIELD £149,995

OFFERS INVITED

BROADWAY

A modern three bedroom townhouse within this ever sought after area West of Wolverhampton. Very well-presented throughout and modernised to include uPVC D.G. radiator C.H. fitted kitchen and bathroom, landscaped gardens and driveway, separate garage and much more. Offers invited for consideration. Viewing is strictly by appointment & highly recommended. (EPC 68 = D)

BILSTON £154,950

NO UPWARD CHAIN

MEADOW LANE

A truly exceptional double fronted 'true' family Bungalow that is 'Walk-in-Ready'! Tastefully improved and fully versatile. Three Bedrooms, Lounge and Dining Room. Restyled bathroom and kitchen. Condensing combi C/Heating and D/Glazed. Much loved private established garden ideal for pet owners etc. Just a short walk from train station and bus links. NO ONWARD CHAIN. (EPC 57 = D)

WEDNESFIELD £134,995

NEW

HAWTHORNE ROAD

An immaculate two bedroom semi-detached home, offering spacious extended and modernised accommodation, benefiting from UPVC DG and Radiator CH, storm-porch, landscaped gardens and a driveway. Ideal and popular location bordering Wednesfield & Willenhall. Viewing is a must – call today! (EPC 66 = D)

WEDNESFIELD £134,500

OFFERS INVITED

LINTHOUSE LANE

Refurbished and modernised semi-detached bungalow in popular area, convenient for local shops/amenities. The 2 bedroom accommodation is immaculately presented and benefits from New DG and CH (where specified) gardens and driveway. WITH NO UPWARDS CHAIN - OFFERS INVITED FOR CONSIDERATION (EPC 70 = C)

WOLVERHAMPTON £124,999

OFFERS INVITED

PRESTWOOD ROAD

An interesting and individual detached residence that offers much potential. In need of some re-modernisation this spacious property benefits from majority uPVC DG and Rad' CH (both where specified). The accommodation includes 2 reception rooms and 3 double bedrooms and a garage, drive and gardens. Viewing is recommended. Offers are invited for consideration! (EPC 21 = F)

STOW HEATH £124,950

LABURNUM ROAD

An immaculate Detached Family home in tucked away backwater! Through Lounge/Diner, restyled Kitchen and Bathroom, attractive gardens and Single Garage! Gas C/Heating and D/Glazing. Book a viewing now! (EPC 57=D)

BILSTON £109,950

FIELDSIDE WALK

A very generous sized Three bed semi in a unique position directly facing fields. Very close to Villiers school and within a short walk of Bilston centre with it's leisure and shopping facilities. Hall, extra downstairs WC, lounge, Dining/Kitchen, Bathroom. Property also includes drive and single Garage at rear. DG and electric heating. (EPC 59 = D)

WOLVERHAMPTON £100,000

NEW PRICE

SPRINGFIELD ROAD

A traditional semi within this convenient location, just outside the city centre and ideal for local schools, shops and road networks to surrounds including Wednesfield, New Cross, Bentley Bridge, Willenhall and Walsall. The 3 bedroom accommodation benefits from UPVC double glazing and radiator central heating. (Both where specified.) A good sized rear garden plus a front with driveway and side access. With no upwards chain, lots of potential plus offers invited - viewing is recommended. (EPC 60 = D)

BLAKENHALL £84,950

OFFERS INVITED

POPLAR STREET

A traditional end terraced home within this popular and convenient location. Ideal for shops, bus network and the city. Deceptively spacious and with 2 reception rooms and 2 bedrooms. With uPVC DG and radiator CH (both where specified). Offered with no upwards chain and offers invited. (EPC 41 = E)

BILSTON £72,000

NO UPWARD CHAIN

BROAD LANES

An Edwardian semi detached villa-style property within walking distance of Bilston's varied amenities. Well proportioned rooms benefit from gas central heating and majority double glazing. Two Reception, Kitchen, Bathroom and WC. Two Double Bedrooms. Gardens to front side and rear. No onward chain. (EPC 44 = E)

WOLVERHAMPTON £79,999

NO UPWARD CHAIN

ALL SAINTS ROAD

Traditional 3 bed terraced, convenient for Wolverhampton City centre and local amenities. Close to the Tesco/Royal Hospital re-generation, walking distance to tram and bus services. The property has had some modernisation over the years, gas CH, DG, would benefit from a scheme of re-decoration. No upwards chain, offers invited for consideration, viewing is recommended. (EPC 70 = C)

WEDNESFIELD £77,000

NEW PRICE

KITCHEN LANE

1st floor flat on North fringe of Wednesfield, close to countryside, convenient for M54, M6 and A462. Willenhall, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Bentley Bridge retail park, New Cross hospital all a short drive. Double glazing and rad central heating. (Where specified.) Front and rear gardens (potential for a driveway subject to permissions). Fixtures and fittings negotiable, offers invited. (EPC 69 = C)

WOLVERHAMPTON £69,950

NEW

PARK LANE

A 3 bedroom end-terrace. Well-presented/modernised pretty much throughout and with rad CH and UPVC DG (both where specified) The property does however require some future works but offers potential. There is no chain and CASH offers are invited/ideally sought. (EPC 59 = D)

BILSTON Rent £750pcm

WILLENHALL ROAD

Large 3 bed detached house
2 reception rooms
Conservatory
Multi fuel burners
Gas Central Heating
Double Glazing
EPC 44 = E

ALBRIGHTON Rent £600pcm

PARK FARM BUILDINGS

1 bed newly converted barn conversion
Rural location
Spectacular views
Neutrally decorated
Private garden
Parking for 2 vehicles
EPC 43 = E

WOLVERHAMPTON Rent £525pcm

BROAD GAUGE WAY

Spacious 2nd floor one bedroom apartment
Easy walking distance of the city centre
Double-glazing and electric storage heating
Off road parking through security gates
EPC 68 = D

GOLDTHORN PARK Rent £425pcm

PARK HALL ROAD

One bedroom ground floor flat
Popular residential location
Well kept communal gardens
Off road parking
Gas central heating
Double glazing
EPC 59 = D

WOLVERHAMPTON Rent £395pcm

WREKIN VIEW

First floor one bedroom flat
Furnished
Secure Parking
Walking distance of city centre
EPC 41 = E

WOLVERHAMPTON Rent £395pcm

TREYNHAM CLOSE

One bedroom ground floor flat
Spacious Lounge
Spacious double bedroom
Double glazing
Gas central heating
EPC 70 = C

LOWER VAUXHALL Rent £375pcm

MALCOLM COURT

One bed first floor flat
Close to amenities
Communal gardens
Courtyard parking
Garage available
EPC 68 = D

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PRICE FROM £799

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- Tours of the Dalmatian Coast and Montenegro
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- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability – supplement applies

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)

Carcasonne, Avignon and Provence

Six days various departure dates

PRICE FROM £449

- Return flights
- Five nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Guided walking tour and time to explore Carcassonne
- Full day visit to Avignon and the Roman Pont du Gard
- Canal du Midi cruise
- All coaching in France
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Air Holidays (ABTA V7812, ATOL 2325)

Lake Garda Venice and Verona

Eight days various departure dates

PRICE FROM £629

- Return flights
- Seven nights half-board accommodation
- Tour of Lake Garda
- Guided sightseeing tours of Venice and Verona
- Tour of the Dolomites (with an optional cable car ride payable locally)
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)

London Weekend by rail

Two days various departure dates

PRICE FROM £129.95

- Return standard class rail travel (upgrade offered)
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation at a choice of four-star London hotels
- Free time in London
- SIngle rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Three-day option also offered from £189.95
Organised by Omega Short Breaks (ABTA Y5914)

Ladies Day at Royal Ascot

Two days departing June 17

PRICE FROM £149

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Entrance to the Silver Ring at Royal Ascot (upgrade to Grandstand Admission offered for £42 per person)
- Visit to Windsor
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Book by May 2 and receive 10% discount - telephone bookings only
Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Afternoon Tea at the Houses of Parliament

Four days departing
August 14, September 18 and October 9

PRICE FROM £299

- Return coach travel
- Three nights half-board accommodation
- Guided tour of the Houses of Parliament and afternoon tea in the Terrace Pavilion of the House of Commons
- Visit to St Albans
- Visits to Kenwood House and Kensington Palace
- Visit to the Royal Air Force museum London
- Services of a tour driver
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Book by May 2 and receive 10% discount - telephone bookings only
Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Lindisfarne and The Alnwick Garden

Three days departing June 12 and Sept 18

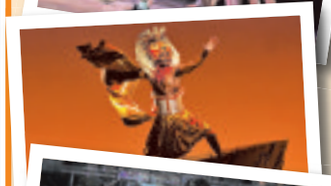
PRICE FROM £195

- Return coach travel
- Two nights half-board accommodation
- Visit to Durham
- Tour of Northumbria's heritage coastline
- Visit to Lindisfarne
- Entrance to The Alnwick Garden
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

London Theatre by coach

Two days selected weekend departure dates



PRICE FROM £139.95*

London is the natural home of theatre and the musical is king in the capital's world-famous West End. British musicals that prove a runaway success here often go on to triumph on Broadway and around the globe.

The winning combination of engaging writing, captivating stage design and commanding performance has enabled London theatres to achieve box office smashes time and time again. And it's the songs that make people return to the capital a number of times and some of the most well-known tunes have become part of the national canvas.

There are two options travelling by coach from which to choose, Saturday Night Theatre or a Theatre Weekend with Dinner.

The Saturday Night Theatre break, from £139.95, includes a ticket for the evening show, whereas the Theatre Weekend with Dinner option starts from £149.95 and includes an evening meal following the matinee performance.

Both trips include return coach travel, a choice of theatre ticket from an extensive list of shows, overnight bed and breakfast accommodation in an outer-London four-star hotel, along with some free time in the capital for shopping or sightseeing.

Pick-ups offered are Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

**The from price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure/web page for details.*

Single room supplements apply.

Organised by Omega Events (ABTA Y590X)

The Rhine Valley and Strasbourg by Eurostar

Pick of the week

Seven days various departure dates

PRICE FROM £659

Visit some of the most fascinating and beautiful sights straddling the banks of the River Rhine.

A tour is included of the scenic Rhine Valley and the most picturesque stretch, its gorge. See the vine-covered hillsides and half-ruined castles on seemingly every summit, passing through fairytale villages along the way.

Nestling by the River Neckar, in a valley dominated by its castle, Heidelberg's setting is second to none. The town itself is a maze of historic, baroque and gabled buildings lining the river, with its romantic old-town behind, here a guided walking tour is included.

Follow the 'High Road' through the Black Forest experiencing some of central Europe's most stunning scenery, with rugged valleys full of white-water rivers, cascading waterfalls and huge densely packed pine trees

Three nights are spent in Strasbourg, where a walking tour is included of this unique and cosmopolitan city. The 11th century cathedral is stunning as is the 16th century old town bisected by picturesque canals.

South of Strasbourg is a scenic wine route, an open air museum of medieval villages, cobbled streets and chateaux with rolling hills behind. A drive and tasting of some of Alsace's fine wines are included here.

There is also some free time in Aachen, originally a Roman Spa town with its cathedral, some of which dates from the 8th century, and Colmar, the best-preserved city in Eastern France, much of it dating from the 6th century.

PRICE INCLUDES

- Return standard class seat on Eurostar and TGV from London
- Return rail connections to London
- Six nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Two dinners
- Tour of the Rhine Valley
- Guided tours of Strasbourg and Heidelberg
- Visits to Aachen, Colmar and the Black Forest
- Tour of Alsace's scenic wine road
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)

Trio of hot VW Golf estates

By Sharon Walters

UK order books have opened for Volkswagen's trio of hot Golf Estates – the Golf R and GTD Estates and the Golf Alltrack – ahead of first deliveries in August.

The R and GTD Estates boast all the attributes of their popular hatchback counterparts, with like for like trims, but bootspace is increased from 380 litres to 605 litres – and up to 1,620 litres when the rear seats are folded flat.

Power outputs range from 110 PS in Alltrack which is available with three engines, through 184 PS in the GTD to 300 PS in the range-topping R model.

The Alltrack and the R Estate also gain 4MOTION four-wheel drive.

Turbocharged

Like the Golf R hatch, the Golf R Estate is powered by a 2.0-litre (1,984 cc) four-cylinder turbocharged TSI petrol engine.

Maximum power is 300 PS from 5,500 to 6,200 rpm while maximum torque of 380 Nm (280 lbs ft) is available from 1,800 up to 5,500 rpm.

In this new car, standstill to 50 mph takes just 3.8 seconds, and to 62 mph 5.1 seconds; top speed is electronically limited to 155 mph.

Style and spec-wise, the Golf R Estate follows all the cues of its hatchback sibling, though the estate is only available with a six-speed DSG gearbox.

The Golf GTD Estate is, quite simply, a booted version of Volkswagen's iconic long-distance sports cruiser.

The new estate model has at its heart a 2.0-litre (1,968 cc) common rail TDI engine which produces 184 PS from 3,500 to 4,000 rpm.

Maximum torque is 280 Nm (380 lbs ft) from 2,500 to 5,000 rpm.

Benchmark

The benchmark 0 to 62 mph sprint takes 7.9 seconds, with a top speed of 143 mph.

Yet the Golf GTD Estate lives up to its benchmark economy, returning 64.2 mpg on the combined cycle, with CO2 emissions of just 115 g/km.

A six-speed manual gearbox is standard, while a six-speed DSG version is available for a premium of £1,415.

The Golf Alltrack follows in the footsteps of the Passat Alltrack which first went on sale in the UK in 2012 and closes the gap between the on- and off-road worlds, both visually and technically.

It features a standard 4MOTION all-wheel drive system, off-road driving profile, higher ground clearance (up to 20 mm).

It is also styled to match its off-road credentials with flared wheelarches and side sills for added protection, as well as newly designed bumpers.

Three engines are available for customers in the United Kingdom and all are familiar from the Golf range.

These comprise a 1.6-litre TDI 110 PS (iteration of engine used in Golf BlueMotion), 2.0-litre TDI 150 PS and 2.0-litre TDI 184 PS (available with DSG gearbox only).

For more details, please visit your local Volkswagen Retailer or www.volkswagen.co.uk

'It is also styled to match its off-road credentials.'

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Fuel consumption figures for the Honda range in mpg (l/100km): Urban Cycle 23.2 – 70.6 (12.2 – 4.0), Extra Urban 40.4 – 85.6 (7.0 – 3.3), Combined 32.5 – 78.5 (8.7 – 3.6). CO_2 emissions 201 – 94g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes and may not reflect real-life driving experience.

Models shown for illustrative purposes only. **Terms and Conditions:** 37 months 0% APR Representative (interest rate per annum 0.0% fixed). Minimum customer deposit 0%, maximum customer deposit 30%. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc. Cain Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1HL. Honda Finance Europe Plc is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Services Register number 312541. **5 Years Servicing Option is available for £500 and includes:** all scheduled servicing as detailed in the vehicle service book for 5 years or 62,500 miles, whichever comes first. Servicing Option of £500 is inclusive of VAT (usual value £1,430 including VAT, resulting in a £930 saving) is only available on vehicles purchased through Honda Aspirations. Please note, should you sell the vehicle during the period of cover, the cover remains with the vehicle. Offer available between the 1 April 2015 and 30 April 2015 inclusive on participating models between 90 and 180 days old, with a starting mileage of 50 miles or less.

Audi upping the styling game with TT roadster

By Graham Breeze

Friends ribbed me that the Audi TT Roadster I was driving was a hairdresser's car but the third generation model that's just arrived on our roads is certainly not just for the girls.

The new TT is evolutionary, rather than revolutionary – after all why fix something that isn't broken. But Audi has upped the game in styling and technology and is taking the fight to rivals in the sector.

The TT Roadster looks broadly the same but there's a sharper focus on sports positioning and better dynamics thanks to its lightweight aluminium and steel construction. The TT of today is a more sharply designed package, with a slightly longer wheelbase with definite hints of the more expensive R8.

Sitting on 19in wheels the S-Line gets deeper side sills, different bumpers and a black grille.

There are just two trims, Sport and S-Line, and a choice of highly efficient engines.

The petrol TT uses a 230bhp, 2.0-litre TFSI unit with either a six-speed manual gearbox or Audi's seven-speed, dual-clutch S tronic transmission, and there's the choice of front- or Quattro four-wheel drive.

You can also get a TDI Ultra version with an 184bhp 2.0-litre diesel engine which gives 67.3mpg and emit just 110g/km of CO2 with manual and front-wheel drive.

I prefer the 2.0litre TFSi S tronic which was on test. It came with an on-the-road tag of £33,020 but on-board extras pushed that up to £40,255.

Extras include leather trim, auto dimming and rear-view mirror sensor package, heated seats and a parking system.

Performance

There was a top speed of 155mph and 0-62mph in only 6.1 seconds, yet the manufacturers claim 38.6mpg on the combined cycle and 11 per cent lower CO2 figures of 142g/km.

That really is competitive.

And while there's the performance you would expect there's lots more inside the cabin to make the TT stand out from the opposition, particularly if you want to upgrade to get Audi's stunning virtual cockpit system.

Centre of attention is the 12in LCD driver display which has replaced conventional dials and sits beautifully in front of the driver where all information is readily available.

This development is a real sales winner for Audi and just has to be seen to be believed. It can be switched between Classic View or Infotainment View which brings up the biggest navigation map you will ever see.

Telephone, media, trip and car settings functions all appear on the screen and can be controlled using both the touch sensitive MMI controller or the multi-function wheel – a sheer joy.

The test car was fitted with the optional Technology Package which added Google Maps traffic information, music streaming and internet access.

On the road stability control intervention contributes to great roadholding and if you chose to upgrade to the AWD Quattro there's even more agility.

Audi's Drive Select system is standard across the range, allowing you to chose Normal, Sport or Dynamic driving modes.

Audi may say that the TT is a 2+2 but it's really a two-seater. The benefits come when you lower the rear seats to increase boot space.

There's also a shortage of storage space in the cabin so you'll need to travel lightly.

Visibility is normally a problem in this sector but the TT scores well in this area.

All models in the new range are considerably dearer, but Audi has a reputation for holding residual values, so price shouldn't be an issue.

Options to suit all customers

The all-new Fiat 500X is a crossover not only in terms of vehicle segments, but also in terms of its potential customers.

With two distinct flavours on offer, there is a 500X to suit every need and taste: One is designed to appeal to those with a fun-loving, spirited, metropolitan outlook, available in Pop, Pop Star and Lounge trim levels.

Another, more rugged version, has been designed with stylish, active adventures in mind, available in Cross and Cross Plus specifications.

A choice of 12 different body colours and eight different designs for the 16-, 17- and 18in alloy wheels, will help every owner personalise the look of their FIAT 500X even further.

Designed in the Centro Stile Fiat, the new 500X not only has clear links to its siblings in the current 500 family but also the iconic 1957 original, most notably its large, circular headlamps (albeit with a sportier, more aggressive shape than the 500 or 500L), its unmistakable nose brightwork and distinctive clamshell bonnet.

Compact on the outside, measuring 4.25m in length (the Cross/Cross Plus is 2cm longer), 1.80m in width and 1.60m in height (1.61 with roof bars, 1.62 with 4WD) with a slippery drag co-efficient of 0.34 CX, the Fiat 500X is also spacious, flexible and inviting on the inside, with extensive use of high-grade materials, top-quality finishes and practical storage compartments.

The new front seats offer a high degree of comfort and adjustability with wraparound bolstering and perfectly aligned arm rests in the centre console and door trims to aid relaxed cruising.

With a 'H point' of 669mm (distance from the ground to the driver's hip) the Fiat 500X offers excellent visibility while also ensuring passengers feel safely enclosed and connected with the vehicle.

Drivers of all-wheel drive versions sit 697mm from the ground, mainly due to the revised suspension settings and different wheels and tyres.

In keeping with its philosophy of appealing to every spectrum of customer, the Fiat 500X will be available with a broad range of powertrain options in the UK.

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Wolverhampton Chronicle Thursday, April 23, 2015

Slicker Vitara will challenge

By Anthony Martyn

It's good to see the Vitara badge being rehabilitated after the indignities it suffered at the hands of fashion in the early nineties. You'll probably shudder as you recall those widewheelarched horrors, usually so mercilessly colour-keyed in white that it looked as if they'd emerged from a peroxide bath.

The windsurfing or rollerblading rhino on the spare wheel cover and the booming stereo from within were all rather 'of their time'. The easy thing to have done after suffering these ministrations would have been to quietly drop the Vitara name and think up a new badge for their next generation of compact crossovers but Suzuki stuck with it, probably to their cost, in this country at least. As the market grew more sophisticated, Suzuki was left behind.

The thing is, the Grand Vitaras it subsequently built were actually pretty good. Sure, they were short of a bit of polish, but they were tough, reliable and practical. Then came the Nissan Qashqai. It hogged that particular section of the market and the Grand Vitara was doomed. Suzuki's back in the crossover segment with a smaller and slicker offering. The Vitara is back.

The mechanicals aren't anything too surprising, shared as they are with the existing SX-4 S-Cross. That means buyers get to choose between either a 1.6-litre petrol engine or a much preferable Fiat-sourced 118bhp 1.6 diesel, both being offered in front or four-wheel drive guises. The petrol engine is fitted with a five-speed manual gearbox as standard with an optional CVT transmission also offered. Go diesel and you get a six-speed manual 'box. The short overhangs will help with off-roading but the 185mm ground clearance isn't generous.

The ALLGRIP four-wheel-drive transmission features an electronically controlled clutch pack, controlled by a four-position switch on the centre console. Choose 'Auto' and it'll drive the front wheels unless slip is detected, whereupon the rear wheels are pressed into action. 'Sport' diverts up to 20 per cent of torque to the rear wheels to give livelier handling. 'Snow' offers permanent four-wheel drive with the system choosing how much torque to split front and rear, while 'Lock' splits torque equally between front and rear.

With tight proportions and a front end that has more than a hint of current Land Rover design, the Vitara is an assured piece of design. There's also a blacked-out floating glasshouse, heavily sculpted flanks and a very neat taillamp finish.

Suzuki cabins have long been the marque's weak link but this Vitara shows the company pulling its socks up a bit. Okay, so the idea of body-coloured metal across the dash isn't a new one (many of you will recall the Fiat Coupe mining that trend way back in '93) but Suzuki also offers chrome around the gearlever and door trims, plus an analogue clock. It's by no means a large vehicle, breaking the tape at just over four metres long, but still features a features a 375-litre boot.

Prices start at around £14,000 for the entry-level 1.6-litre petrol, but you'll need a £20,000 budget for the petrol ALLGRIP 4WD version. 1.6 DDiS diesel model pricing starts at around £17,000. All variants get seven airbags, 16-inch alloy wheels, a DAB Radio with USB and Bluetooth connectivity, cruise control with a speed limiter, auto air conditioning, front and rear electric windows and projector headlamps.

The Vitara's CO2 emissions are low thanks to the use of high tensile steel and other weight saving measures in the body plus an Engine Auto Stop Start system which shuts down the engine when stationary. The CO2 emissions for the petrol engine with two wheel drive/manual transmission are 123g/km and 127g/km for the petrol engine with two-wheel drive / six-speed automatic transmission. Four-wheel drive is typically seen as detrimental to fuel economy and emissions performance. By contrast, Suzuki's ALLGRIP system enables CO2 emissions that are remarkably low for a four-wheel drive SUV, with figures of 130g/km with five-speed manual transmission and 131g/km with six-speed automatic transmission.

'Suzuki cabins have long been the marque's weak link but this Vitara shows the company pulling its socks up a bit.'

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Wolverhampton Chronicle Thursday, April 23, 2015

Don't try to haggle over the price – it is a bargain

By Ian Donaldson

MG must be hoping that less is more with the relaunch of the larger of its two models, the blink-and-you'll-miss it MG6.

Now the company, based in China but with a modest UK home in the Birmingham factory where the original Mini was once built, is slashing prices of the MG6, ditching the option of a petrol engine and booting out the saloon version too.

That leaves a pared down range, costing £3,000 less than before, with modest changes to looks inside and out, slightly better performance and economy from its diesel engine and a boost to the already high standard equipment count.

And MG will be pretty happy if it sells 600 of them this year through a growing dealer network enjoying fast-rising sales, mostly of the smaller MG3 hatch.

Like that lively little runaround, its big brother MG6 has no-haggle prices (so don't try), but with the cheapest model in the three-car line-up costing just £13,995 there shouldn't be many potential customers who don't regard it as a bit of a bargain anyway.

They'll be getting an S grade car with air con, hill start assist (it hangs on to the brakes for a moment after you release the pedal on a slope) and even heated front seats (they'll cost you £300 on a £35,000 Audi) and an engine that provides enough performance and a likely 50mpg in everyday use.

The £16,195 TS version brings satellite navigation (a new system that works well), along with Bluetooth and a DAB radio, auto lights, wipers and dimming mirror and rear parking sensors.

That's surely the version to go for if you can possibly afford the extra monthly payments, although the range topping TL (£17,955) does add a touch of modest luxury, with leather trim, electric seats, dual zone climate control and a rear parking camera.

All of which may make you wonder how the likes of Ford, with the Focus, Vauxhall with the Astra and Skoda' with the Octavia (all quoted as chief rivals) actually manage to move any metal at much greater prices – up to £7,000 more in some cases, before you factor in a discount or two.

Well, even MG would agree the opposition "might perform slightly better", and it does. The MG6, especially this reworked version actually feels pretty good on the road, pulling well without too much diesel clatter and urged along with a fine new feel to the gear change.

Rides and handles decently too; you can tell final fettling has been done by British engineers on our uniquely challenging UK road surfaces (German prestige marques please note), but without that final veneer of class that you'll find in the best of the MG6's competitors.

Inside, the new car feels usefully more classy than before but the feel of its plastics and the look of the instruments won't worry a Skoda driver, although an MG buyer may be more interested in the spacious back seat and big boot of his car rather than spending time rapping the dash with his knuckles.

But you must then skip back to the prices and ask: "Is this is a car I could live with, while pocketing the thousands of pounds I'd save by buying one?"

There ought to be at least 600 people this year who answer with a resounding "yes!".

TESTED

MG6 GT TL
Engine: 148bhp diesel
Warranty: Three years, 60,000 miles
Economy: The MG6 can do 60.7mpg
Insurance group: 15
Price: £17,995

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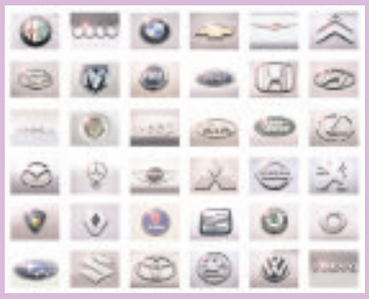

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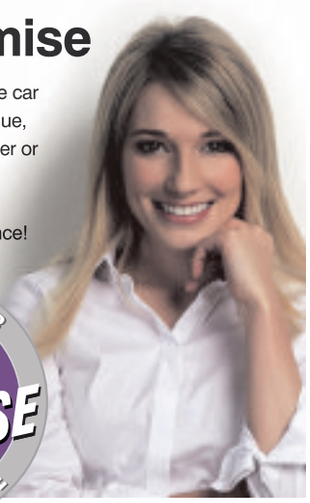

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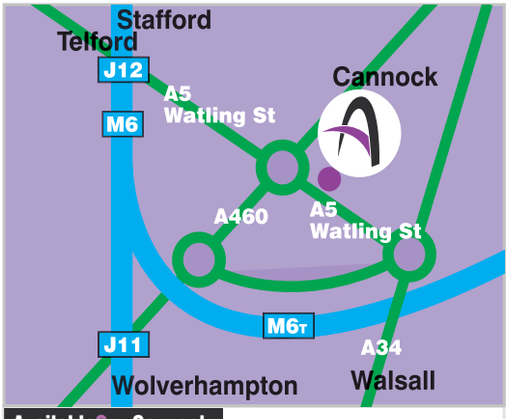

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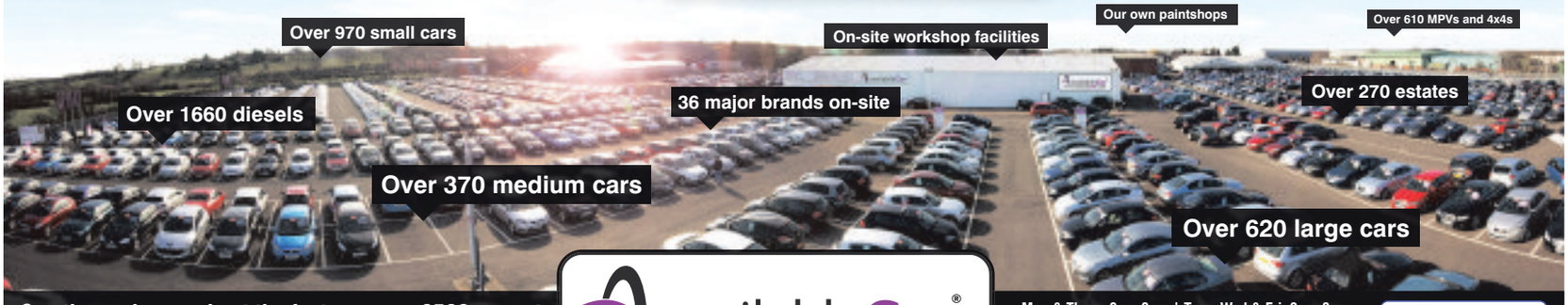

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Wolverhampton Chronicle Thursday, April 23, 2015

Vauxhall's underdog is a sound performer

By James Parker

Vauxhall's latest version of the Corsa VXR packs a 205PS punch, a six-speed manual gearbox to delight purists and the option of a Performance Pack with a Drexler differential, Brembo brakes and bigger wheels. Some trick Koni dampers are fitted as standard. Economy and emissions lag behind the class best but otherwise it's a strong showing.

Here in the UK, we do love an underdog and on that basis, we ought to be all over the Vauxhall Corsa VXR.

It's never been one of the blue-blood hot hatches. It doesn't have the lineage of a Peugeot 208 GTI, the joie de vivre of a Fiesta ST or the track-bred polish of a Renaultsport Clio. What many people failed to realise about the last Corsa VXR is that as a pure road car, it had the licking of a number of more illustrious names. The combination of a slightly more supple ride quality and an aggressively punchy engine really made sense on British roads. Vauxhall built us a car and we didn't really repay them.

Undeterred, they're back with another crack. This time round, the Corsa VXR rides on a different chassis and looks a good deal sharper. Can it beat the best in the class? Even if it does, will you take notice? You're a tough crowd.

Power comes from an entirely predictable source, namely a 1.6-litre turbocharged petrol engine, in this case sending 205PS through the front tyres via a six-speed manual box. That aces the Fiesta ST's 182PS but look a bit more closely and you realise that the performance margin isn't huge.

The Corsa manages 245Nm of torque, with overboost lifting that to 280Nm for a few seconds at a time. By contrast the Ford makes 240Nm of torque, overboosting to 290Nm. And so it proves with the raw numbers, the Corsa getting to 62mph in 6.8 seconds with a top speed of 143mph, while the Fiesta manages 6.9 seconds and 137mph. So, a small edge to the Vauxhall then.

Lower

The Corsa VXR gets Koni dampers with Frequency Selective Damping (FSD) and rides 10mm lower than the standard Corsa. For the first time on a hot Corsa, the ESP and traction control systems are both two-stage and switchable, which is a Vauxhall first. Competition mode disengages traction control and reduces ESP interventions, while for track use the ESP can be entirely switched out.

The electrically-assisted power steering has been revised for a more direct feel, with the 17in alloys shod with some beefy 215/45 R17 Michelin rubber. Tick the Performance Package option and you get an aggressive Drexler limited-slip differential, big 330mm Brembo brake discs at the front, punchier damper settings and 18in rims.

The VXR features an aggressive new front-end design that has divided opinion amongst those who first saw it on the Geneva Show stand. It gets large air intakes and an aluminium-framed opening below the headlights with a scoop below the bonnet and side-sill extensions. At the back, a rear spoiler reduces lift and twin Remus exhaust pipes further distinguish it from regular Corsas. Six exterior paint finishes, including an exclusive Flash Blue launch colour, are on offer.

The cabin features the usual sporty styling touches for the pedals, seats, steering wheel and gear lever but what really impresses is the feeling of solidity. A driver control centre takes pride of place within the instrument panel, which is themed around horizontal lines. The VXR also gets the IntelliLink communications system which has already been seen in the ADAM.

Recaro

This Corsa VXR has been priced against £20,000 supermini-based hot hatches like the Clio Renaultsport 200 Lux, the Peugeot 208 GTi and a top-spec version of Ford's Fiesta ST. For that kind of money, Vauxhall gives you standard Recaro shell-backed seats, a leather, flat-bottomed steering wheel, sports pedals, plus a VXR gear-lever and bespoke instruments.

A heated front windscreen and Intellilink connectivity for both Apple iOS and Android smartphones are also standard. There's also cruise control, a trip computer and bi-xenon headlights. Safety systems include six airbags and stability control, but should you want to go further, you can option in side blindspot alert, high beam assist, lane departure warning and a rear-view camera. You can even specify a panoramic glass roof.

The 17in wheels that come as standard are a bit of a dull outing, but the 18in option rims look the business.

The Corsa VXR makes some fairly unexceptional economy and emissions numbers. Vauxhall reckon it will manage a combined 37.7mpg and emit 174g/km, which is some way off the 44.8mpg and 144g/km of a Clio 200 – and a long way shy of the top Fiesta ST's 47.9mpg and 138g/km. It's a bit baffling as to why this should be so below par.

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Small revisions making a big difference on the Mazda SUV

By Iain Dooley

The CX-5 led Mazda's charge back to winning ways in 2012 with the striking 'Kodo' styling that was then rolled out on everything else, from the 2 supermini to the 6 flagship saloon. This is the first time a Kodo car has been updated, so, as you can imagine, Mazda has kept the visual changes to a minimum.

On the inside, the MZD infotainment system has been revised and you'll find some of the main buttons in a more intuitive place between the front seats. Small things can make a big difference.

You'd have to argue that the CX-5 has been the prettiest member of the compact SUV class since it was launched. Nothing has changed too much on that front, with a tweak here and a lift there.

Soft lines and muscular shapes combine to hide the car's size exceptionally well. The Mazda is bigger than a Nissan Qashqai, but it doesn't look it.

Leaders

Something has always held this car's sales back versus the sector sales leaders, though – even if a few hours with the car leaves me clueless as to why.

It holds its own against any rival you care to name, so perhaps something in the CX-5's image is struggling to shout loud enough to be heard over the crowd.

You be the judge.

An average-height man in the driving seat of the manual version leaves plenty of legroom behind himself. People tend to sit a bit further away in the automatic version, though, to stretch their legs a bit more, while those who sit closer to the wheel leave limo-like space for rear passengers.

The boot is pretty huge, with a recessed bin at the side that can keep bottles or cartons from rolling or sliding around the rest of the load bay.

A capacious covered bin between the front seats also has a removable coin tray. Handy.

While the 2.2-litre diesel is a miracle of modern technology for how low its emissions are, it could do with more soundproofing.

It grumbles and growls away not unpleasantly, but certainly more loudly than it could.

It really does drive sweetly, though, with a marvellous gearbox inspired by the MX-5 sports car's, and body control that sits between the sporty and the comfortable. It grips like a limpet, feels instantly driver-friendly and the only factor that takes some getting used to is on the manual petrol models, which have springy clutches and such instant throttle response that it can be hard to be really smooth when setting off.

Intuitive

Worth noting is the redesigned MZD system control layout, which works a treat. The system itself is possibly the most intuitive and capable system you'll find anywhere in 'cardom', quickly leading you to the options and sub-menus that you want.

At the top end of the range the CX-5 gets expensive. It's more spacious than some of its big-selling rivals, though, so the price tag isn't without justification.

The rubberised finish of some interior surfaces is a bit utilitarian for a car of this price, but the high-riding Mazda's attributes lie elsewhere. It feels like solid value for money in the middle of the range.

The fluency with which it drives, relative to its more straight-laced rivals, is a unique selling point in the sector.

It's also a bit of a looker and comes complete with a towering driving position, lots of legroom for five and a boot big enough to create echoes.

It's a family car, then, but one for parents who really take pride in their choice and want something they can consciously enjoy owning.

This car summed up in a single word: Smooth.

If this car was a: Character in a soap opera, it would be good-looking, easy-going and talented.

TESTED

Mazda CX-5, from £22,295

Engine: Four-cylinder diesel producing 148bhp and 280lb/ft

Transmission: Six-speed manual driving the front wheels

Performance: Top speed 125mph, 0-62mph in 9.2 seconds

Fuel Economy: 61.4mpg

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Models shown: Kia Rio 3-dr 'SR7' 1.25 84bhp 5-speed manual @ £10,845 including £1,000 customer saving, Kia cee'd 'SR7' 1.4 98bhp 6-speed manual @ £14,650 including £1,000 customer saving and Kia Picanto 'SR7' 1.0 68bhp 5-speed manual @ £9,610 including metallic paint with £700 customer saving. Customer savings vary by model derivative. Specification is subject to change without notice. Price, Reevoo score and number of reviews correct at time of going to press. †3 years' servicing (Kia Care-3) for £99 offer is only valid on applicable 'SR7' models. Log onto kia.co.uk/sr7 for full details. 7 year / 100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty, for terms and exclusions visit www.kia.co.uk. Offer not available with any other offer. Retail sales only. Subject to availability on vehicles registered between 01/04/2015 and 30/06/2015. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. 18's or over. Guarantee/indemnity may be required. 10% minimum deposit. Further charges may be made subject to the condition or mileage of the vehicle. Excess mileage charge 14.9p per mile. 25, 31 and 37 month terms. At the end of the agreement there are 3 options: (i) Renew: Part exchange the vehicle. (ii) Retain: Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle. Kia Motors Finance RH1 1SR. Brindley (Wolverhampton) 55 Penn Road Wolverhampton, WV2 4WW 01902 717702. **E L Bouts Motors Ltd trading as Brindley Kia Wolverhampton are a credit broker (not a lender) for the purposes of this financial promotion and can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers and may receive a commission from them for the introduction. You will not own the vehicle until all payments are made.**

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Admission 20p.

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For further details and an application form contact The Manager on 01902 761192.

voluntary posts

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED Staffordshire & Wolverhampton Cancer Advocacy & Support Project. Would you like to make a real difference for someone affected by cancer? Commit 2-4 hours per week. We need to train volunteer aged 45+ to support people affected by cancer. CONTACT: Beth Johnson
Foundation - 01782 844036
email: macmillan@bjf.org.uk

8 Motoring

cars over £1500

BMW 320D SE AUTO. 06 reg, black & leather seats. Satnav - idrive. FSH. 79,600 miles, long MoT. New tyres. £7,150. o.n.o. 07976 604237.

BMW 520SE Estate, automatic, 52 plate, blue, 107k, 12 months MoT, FSH, black leather, excellent condition, £2,000 ono. 07957 230974.

CHRYSLER CROSSFIRE alloys, 06, silver/blue, £6,100. 07732 332880.

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FIAT PUNTO 2006, 81,500 miles, black, MoT, central locking, PAS, CD £2,575 ono 07761 532710

HONDA ACCORD 2.0 SE, 55, FSH, 45k miles, 2 owners, Ice blue, new MoT. Exceptional throughout. Any inspection. £3,750. 07976 479761.

LEXUS iS250 SE 06, Sapphire blue, cream leather, Immaculate. MoT September, 18ins alloys, £3,950. 07810 358862 / 01384 873160.

MAZDA MX5 1.6, Pheonix, 2002, 56861 miles, Titanium Grey. Excellent condition throughout, £2,200. 07855 989 253.

MAZDA MX5 1.8, 62k, 1999, red, rollbar, alloy wheels, good tyres, MoT March 2016, £1,800 ono. Telephone 01902 781247.

MERCEDES BENZ CLC 220 CDi Sports, alloys, 08, silver, 38k. £12,000. 07732 332880.

turn to page 66

office & secretarial

ADMIN ASSISTANT / ORDERS CLERK for a building maintenance company. Would suit school leaver or return to work. Hours are negotiable. Apply: Box Number P19785 Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

sales & marketing

WOLVERHAMPTON FLOWERS LTD (Wholesalers) are looking for a highly motivated Sales Representative. Experience in sales and flowers would be an advantage.
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nursing & carers

CARE UK require Full/Part time Community Care Workers Wolverhampton area Including Wednesfield, Low Hill, Tettenhall,Bushbury, Pendeford, Oxley, Ashmore Park areas. Experience not essential as full training is provided. Earn up to £7.61 per hour plus 12p mileage Call now 0333 999 7629

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6 Property

properties wanted

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accommodation to let

NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

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Swimming pool.
Dogs welcome.
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Outside decking. Leaving some furniture and furnishing.
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overseas property

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MITSUBISHI L200 4LIFE DOUBLE CAB
53 plate, 2.5, FSH, black/silver, 10 months MoT, 38,000 miles, powerchip fitted, stainless double wrap around back bumper with step, stainless bull bar, roll bar and towbar, back liner, spot lights, tinted windows, excellent condition, Thatcham approved cat 1 alarm, refurbed including wheels, 1 owner from new,
£7,995 ono.
01384 826119 or 07948 961078.

PEUGEOT 206 1.4, 5 door, 07 reg, 29,000 miles, alloys, MoT. Good condition. £2,295 ono. 07773 261046.

PEUGEOT 206 ALLURE
2003, 44,000 miles, silver, abs, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, alarm, long MoT, metallic paint, central locking, pas, CD, leather interior.
£1,850.
07969 174759.

RENAULT CLIO 03 Reg., very good condition, grey, all extras, 12 months MoT, £1,650. o.n.o. 01384 263759.

RENAULT CONVERTIBLE MEGANE
2008, 54,000 miles, black, abs, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, fsh, alarm, MoT. Excellent 4 seater.
£3,200 ono.
07780 360980.

TOYOTA AYGO 1.0 VVTi BLUE EDITION
2009, 33,600 miles, alloys, bluetooth, ipod & phone connectivity, parking sensors, MoT, £20per year tax.
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VW GOLF 1.4 final edition, 53 reg, black, 76,000 miles, 1 owner, excellent condition, £1,800. 01902 675109.

cars under £1500

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that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

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FIAT SEICENTO Michael Schumacher Special. Lamborgini yellow 2000, MoT,EW, sunroof in beautiful condition. £645. ono 07908 836875

FORD FIESTA Flight, 2001, 3 door hatchback, petrol, 1299cc, red, MoT March 2016. Good runner. £595ono. 07811 109973.

HONDA BALLARD 1.5 Auto, 1987 D reg, 4-dr salon, 45,688 miles, met blue, MoT May 25, 2015, good runner, £200, 07918 603049.

MITSUBISHI SPACESTAR 1.3, petrol, 2000, 100,000 miles, 5 door, 11 months MoT, blue. Spare key. £425 ono. 07720 885174.

PEUGEOT 206 1.4. (05), silver, 5dr, long MoT, A/C, PAS, CD player £30 year Tax. Excellent condition. £1,250. o.n.o. 07429 999105.

PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Turbo Diesel Sport, 2004, 5 door, black, 100,000 miles, MoT, excellent condition. £795. 07851 213316.

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New shape, 2005, 5Dr hatch, Euro version, long MoT.
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07990 742093.

BARGAIN

PEUGEOT 206 HDi diesel, superb reliable, full MoT, service history, real eye catcher, £1,295. 07512 844586.

RENAULT CLIO 1.2, MoT, 2004, 50,000 miles only, EW, CD, SR, CL, £1,295 ono. 07722 998594.

ROVER 25 5-dr hatch, 1.6, 2003, blue, MoT January, petrol, 74K, sunroof, radio/CD player. £395. 07928 679949. 01902 822939.

VAUXHALL ASTRA ESTATE, 69,000 miles, MoT Sept. £500 ono. 07966 295135 (after 6.30pm).

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0
1999, petrol, manual, red, MoT January 2016, stereo, 3 door, well maintained, drives superb.
£590.
Telephone 07985 551666.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0, 3dr hatch, 2002, MoT June, blue, petrol, immobiliser, CL, excellent runner, £700 ono. 07974 264128.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0 5dr, hatch, 2001, 51k , MoT, new exhaust, tyres, battery, very good condition for year, £995. 07842 930024.

VAUXHALL VECTRA LS, 1.8 5Dr, hatch, blue, 03 Reg., petrol, 90k, fsh, MoT, CD radio, very good condition, £795. 01384 351704.

VAUXHALL ZAFIRA CLUB, 1.6 petrol, 7 seater, 56 plate, 2 owners from new, s/h, 6 months MoT, 103,000 miles, blue, £1,495. 01902 342564.

VOLVO V70 ESTATE. 2001, 7-seater family pack, clean car and drives well, MoT Sept 2015. Blue. £750. 07938 446750. Tettenhall.

VW POLO, 03, silver, 3 door, MoT, full service history, CD player. Great condition, cheap to run, £1,550 ono. 07535 074158.

VW POLO, 999cc, 1997, 133,000 miles, dark green, long MoT, CD, new Cat converter. Cambelt change. £500 ono. 01785 780598.

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9 Local Information

public & legal notices

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

Geoffrey Kibble trading as GK Transport Ltd of Patrick Gregory Road, Wednesfield Wolverhampton WV11 3DU is applying to change an existing licence as follows:

To add an operating centre to keep 4 goods vehicles and 2 trailers at Unimetal Product Components Ltd, Patrick Gregory Road, Off Linthouse Lane, Wednesfield West Midlands WV11 3TW

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at West Midlands Traffic Area, Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office

LICENSING ACT 2003

Application has been made by Depinder Singh Juttla, to the Licensing Authority of Wolverhampton City Council, for a premises licence in respect of premises to be known as: Dosa Hut, 314 Dudley Road, Wolverhampton WV2 3JY.

The application includes the following terms;

1. To enable the retail sale of alcohol, for consumption on and off the premises, between Monday - Sunday 12:00 - 23:30 hours
2. Recorded, unamplified, background music, between Monday - Sunday 12:00 - 00:30 hours
3. Late night refreshment, between Monday - Sunday 23:00 - 23:30 hours
4. Premises open to the public, between Monday - Sunday 12:00 - 00:30 hours

Full details of the application may be viewed at the Council Offices, Wolverhampton City Council, Civic Centre, (Reception 14), St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton WV1 1DA during normal office hours, Monday to Friday Licensing@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Any representations by responsible authorities, or other persons regarding the application, must be made in writing to the above licensing authority and they must be received no later than 12th May 2015.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is £5000.

LICENSING ACT 2003
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE

An application for a Premises Licence has been made by

Aunt Sallys LTD

to Wolverhampton City Council in respect of premises known as Aunt Sallys which are situated at

8 Broad Street
Wolverhampton
WV1 1HP

The application is as follows:

Request for license to sell light refreshments at following times:

Monday to Thursday	**10.00am till 1.00am**
Friday	**10.00am till 4.00am**
Saturday	**10.00am till 4.00am**
Sunday	**10.00am till 1.00am**

Any representations by interested parties or responsible authorities regarding the application must be made in writing to:

Licensing Services, Civic Centre, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton, WV1 1DA by **…5th May…… 2015**

It is an offence, liable on summary conviction to a fine up to Level 5 (£5,000) on the standard scale, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with the application.

public & legal notices

highways england

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984-SECTION 14(1)(A)
THE M54 MOTORWAY (JUNCTIONS 3 TO 2)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Highways England Company Limited (Company No. 9346363) has made an Order on the M54 Motorway, in the Counties of Shropshire and Staffordshire, to allow resurfacing works to be carried out.

The effect of the Order will be to close –

1. the eastbound carriageway of the M54 from its junction with the exit slip road at Junction 3, to its junction with the entry slip road at Junction 2;
2. the slip road leading to the eastbound carriageway of the M54 at Junction 3; and
3. the slip road leading from the eastbound carriageway of the M54 at Junction 2.

Work will be carried out at weekends overnight between 20:00 hours and 06:00 hours and is expected to start on Tuesday 28 April 2015 and continue for two weekends. The Order will come into force on Friday 24 April 2015.

Vehicles being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes and vehicles being used in connection with the works or by a traffic officer will be exempt from the closures.

A diversion route via the A41, A5 and A449 will be signed.

For further information, please contact Ominder Bharj on 0121 6788101.

Mike Lloyd, a Higher Executive Officer in the Highways England Company Limited.

Highways England Company Limited (Company No. 9346363) registered office: Bridge House, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, GU1 4LZ.
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(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

FRANCIS JOHN NEAL
(Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 8 Wendell Crest Bushbury Wolverhampton WV10 8UJ, who died on 29/10/2014, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 03/07/2015, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
TALBOTS LAW LTD
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Codsall WV8 1BX *T438878*

10 Personals

personal

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Afternoon session
U'10s, U'11s, U'15s
Sunday 17th morning session
U'7s, U'8s and U'14s
Afternoon session,
U'11's /12 girls, U'13 /14 girls,
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general

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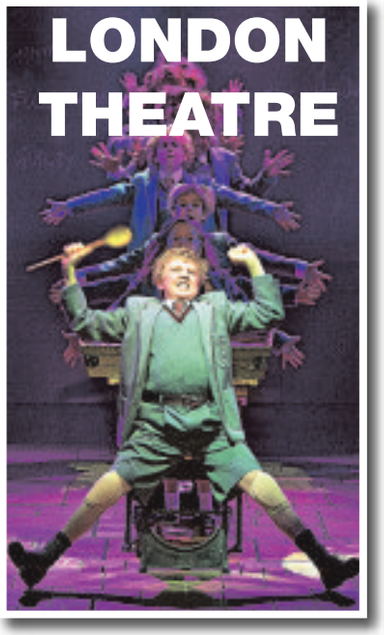

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Women seeking men

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KATHERINE, romantic, slim, feminine, loves to live life to the full, seeks adventurous outgoing male to appreciate and share life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417091**

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. **Tel No: 0905 002 1883 Box No: 413399**

SHERRIE 32, blonde, great company, loves going out, looking to share life with that special someone. Status/Looks/age unimportant.**Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417067**

ADVENTUROUS sexy lady, 38yrs, married but seeks no strings fun with discreet man, any age. I'm tall, slim and dominant. Aca. **Tel No: 0905 002 1937 Box No: 415301**

KAREN 50, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, GSOH, loving, caring, understanding, seeking similar male, 55-55. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416989**

ANNE, mid 40's, cheerful busty cuvy affectionate real woman! Seeks gent, any age or looks for nights at mine. **Tel No: 0905 002 1953 Box No: 410291**

KAREN 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416337**

DISCREET lady, 42yrs wants to make you happy, come to me and let me do that for you. ACA. **Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box No: 409901**

THELMA, 43, attractive blonde, seeks loving, honest, funny male to pamper and make happy.**Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416979**

TARA, confident lady, long legs, long hair, seeks a saucy man of any age for daytime, no strings fun. **Tel No: 0905 002 1913 Box No: 414701**

PRETTY slim female, 48, N/S, no ties, seeks tall, slim level headed male for initial friendship and evenings out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416727**

THELMA, 43, attractive blonde, seeks loving, honest, funny male to pamper and make happy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416979**

DAWN attractive, easygoing, and dazzling, WLTM well built mature male for fun loving no strings romance. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416917**

MID naughty forties female looking fun, thrills and discreet meets, give me a call, you wont be disappointed. Any age with own accommodation. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409109**

KAREN medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415429**

KAREN 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416337**

MARIA gorgeous leggy blonde seeks tall professional male for fun nights out, cosy nights in with plenty of TLC and romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416861**

SUSAN 44, stunning curvy blonde, fit and active seeks happy go lucky male for good conversation, fun times, maybe more. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416801**

STELLA 50, gorgeous, voluptuous and all woman seeks sensual older male, who knows just what he wants for lots of naughty fun and TLC. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707**

PAULA 40, sensual, young at heart brunette looking for some fun and romance with a tall outgoing male. Call if you feel the same. ACA **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416681**

VAL 41, pretty, cuddly, flirty, seeks similar fun loving male for an uncomplicated no strings relationship. Age/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416601**

EILEEN 49, lovely brunette, adventurous and eager to please seeks intelligent male to share the fun side of life together. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416521**

CHRISTINE 48, shy sensitive brunette looking for lively older male to make her smile again and bring back some passion. s **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416519**

BEAUTIFUL full figured, down to earth black woman, 37, looking for some serious fun with an experienced, confident, older guy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416499**

SINCERE lady, seeks similar gent, widower preferred, 60-67, 5ft 6ins, so slightly taller than me, N/S, car owner and likes a dog. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416471**

KAREN 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416337**

JUNE 50, beautiful, funny, warm, young looking blonde WLTM attractive down to earth male for no strings fun, laughter and love. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416299**

SHELLY 36, tiny shy brunette seeks down to earth, sensitive, older male to snuggle up, share a bottle of wine with and pamper. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416235**

KATHERINE 33, pretty blonde would love to get intimate with outgoing, fit guy who is also looking for fun relationship with no strings. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416197**

FEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416287**

PAT 5ft 2ins, medium build, attractive, blonde hair, widow, seeking N/S, sincere gent for friendship and days out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416057**

ALICE 36, tall and slim with long brown hair, outgoing and sporty seeks funny, intelligent guy to share active days and cosy nights. Age/looks not important. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416087**

GWEN middle aged, 65-75, 5ft 2ins, likes theatre, country music, holidays, seeks N/S male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415785**

ASIA very attractive slim single black 32yr female looking for fun times with god time guy with GSOH and a real passion for life and falling in love. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415837**

SARAH 31yrs looking for casual 1-2-1 no strings fun with broadminded bored male. Status unimportant, discretion and mutual respect essential. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415821**

LINDA uncomplicated female who loves the simple things in life, looking for N/S male with GSOH for nights in/out, no games, users or time wasters please. s **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415535**

PATRICIA widow 67, likes simple pleasures in life, seeks gent, N/S for friendship/companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415685**

KAREN 50, widow, blonde hair, GSOH, 5ft 5ins, slim, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415767**

GEM 34yr old pretty brunette with lovely big eyes and nice skin, many interests, WLTM kind tallish male, 30-50yrs for serious relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415571**

SYLVIA attractive blonde size 12 45yr old female looking for genuine companionship, someone to spend quality times with, enjoy music and cosy times together. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415543**

HOME alone far too often, attractive bubby fun good time girl 32yrs seeking male 30-50yrs for broadminded daytime fun. Let's rid the boredom! **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415523**

SUE attractive, independent, confident female, sporty, petite, loves the Arts, good books, looking for romantic, sensitive nice guy for nice times together. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415501**

DIANE 37, sensual, tactile and loving seeks tall male for interesting conversations and cosy intimate nights together. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416085**

BRIDGET 48, voluptuous, seductive and very saucy, seeks male for lots of TLC and to make very happy in return. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416083**

ATTRACTIVE tall, dark, professional gent, GSOH, likes sports, socialising, good company, seeking female with GSOH for laughs, conversation and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415969**

ATTRACTIVE professional widow, 73, WLTM sincere caring gent, widower for friendship, meals in, conversation and to put a smile on our faces. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415951**

KAREN 50, widow, 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks gent with GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415871**

23YR old Asian female, seeks sugar daddy, any age for fun and much more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415367**

KAREN medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415429**

AMANDA 5ft 4ins slim fit attractive, enjoys the outdoors, nice wine, theatre etc. seeking romantic considerate soul mate to broaden my horizons. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415391**

SAM attractive single mum who really enjoys life and likes to be happy WLTM genuine single male/dad for mutual companionship, dates in/out and tlc. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415381**

KAREN medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415429**

YOUNG looking female, likes rock music, concerts, theatre, seeks Rock male with similar interests for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415249**

MANDY very attractive, slim single mum 36yrs, employed, OHAC, looking to share some quality times with similar genuine kind hearted social male/dad. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415409**

DIANE attractive singleton seeks male to have some fun with, meals out, cinema, dancing and just see were things lead from there. Age/race unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415373**

SHELIA Asian 20yr old female, very pretty, feminine with long hair, enjoys nights in or out, seeking mature white male 55plus for discreet fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415181**

MARGARET 39, attractive active female likes animals, reading, meals in/out, seeking considerate partner for good laughs, companionship, shared interests and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414727**

KAREN 50, widow, likes swimming, horse riding, keep fir, clay pigeon shooting, GSOH, N/S, non drinker, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415211**

BUBBLY larger than life 28yr old blonde bombshell, seeks large built male to fulfil my every fantasy! Give me a call; I will totally make your day maybe even your year. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414977**

BARBARA 38 slim sporty attractive blonde, varied interests, single and ready to date, seeks kind honest guy for shared interests, fun nights out, hopefully leading to more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414967**

JULIE single petite attractive big blue eyed brunette, loves cooking a cosy meal in, nights out, searching for real love with genuinely nice guy. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414491**

GOOD looking professional lady, 56, enjoys the arts, country walks, meals out, seeks compatible, genuine, professional gent to enjoy the good things in life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415007**

ANGIE 38yrs slim blonde, ex model with lovely long legs with shapely figure, fit, toned, sporty, confident but warm, WLTM similar perceptive, sensitive individual for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414723**

BECKY stunning big blue eyed 38yr old honest, caring and fun person looking for nice times with similar outgoing fun guy, status/age unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414391**

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere, N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. West Midlands. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414773**

NICOLA 32, blue eyes, petite, pretty brunette, shy at first, trustworthy, caring, varied hobbies, seeks male/single dad up to 40yrs for tlc possible ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414707**

KAREN petite 34yr old attractive blonde, likes pubs, clubs, meals out, gym, looking for honest caring guy who can make me laugh. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414373**

CATH 37yr old very bored housewife seeking bored male for some fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414497**

ANN looking for no strings adult fun, broadminded and great fun, blonde, attractive and discreet. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414363**

JANE 5ft5ins blue eyed attractive curvy mature student with happy disposition, enjoys meals or drinks in/out, keeping fit, walking, seeking genuine fun male with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414229**

ARE you Mr Wonderful? Lesley attractive slim auburn haired fit lady who loves life and fully intends to live it to the full, seeking similar caring, patient man. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414213**

KATY 26 slim beautiful discreet blue eyed blonde looking for mature gent for some uncomplicated fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414209**

ANNABELLE 29 slim tanned beautiful sophisticated sensual brunette, loves the high life, Champaign lunches, weekends away, seeks very own sugar daddy for sweet nothings. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414191**

SARAH 38yr old bored blonde seeking single guys up for some good times, chats and discreet meets. Looking forward to hearing from you. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414177**

EMS 32yrs petite young looking, pretty, likes swimming, walking, talking etc, seeking honest bloke or dad up to 40yrs for fun adult friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413853**

NATALIE 22yrs attractive brunette nurse, very slim, athletic figure, many likes, few dislikes, WLTM male up to 38yrs to stay at home and have some fun with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413839**

MAZ 36 petite curvy big blue eyes, loves music, beach walks, cosy nights with good conversation and nice wine, seeks similar likeminded male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413571**

HELEN feisty redhead with many interests including beach walks and quiet nights in, looking for male with GSOH and a passion for travel. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413869**

ANN slim attractive widowed but not past being loved lady, loves travel, country good conversation, WLTM kind genuine male, 35-65 for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413453**

JANET tall beautiful brunette, slim 12, separated, enjoys life, no hang-ups, wanting quality time, friendship and possible romance with similar guy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413415**

ANITA seeking nice man in the West Midlands, 50-70 for companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413765**

SONYA slim attractive vibrant lady with GSOH, social nature, fit/active, WLTM N/S male up to 60yrs for romantic genuine respectful relationship, loving. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413441**

EMMA petite slim blue eyed blonde 22yrs, likes cinema, dancing/music, just chillin, seeking easygoing male for fun and good times but nothing serious. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413207**

EUROPEAN beauty romantic, caring, attentive, looking for loving male to enjoy warm loving relationship with, call me to find out more. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413013**

KAREN 34 blue/green eyed size 12 attractive brunette who loves pubs, cosy nights in, kids, seeking special honest guy/dad for poss ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413005**

ROSA 27 sexy senorita seeking older handsome prince charming to whisk me off my feet, enjoy fun times, improve my English and fall in love with. Age/race unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412927**

RITA attractive blonde with a very kind heart seeks special man to share my life with. Please get in touch if like me you are fed up with always being the single friend. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412987**

JAN 5ft8ins slim pretty lady in great shape, open-minded, laidback, GSOH, OHAC, many interests, WLTM someone for cuddling up with and to share good and bad times. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412931**

ANN slim attractive N/S lady who is easy to get along with, looking for romantic interesting man for new adventures together, hopefully ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412911**

JULIE loving, caring, honest, seeks real gent to share conversation and have a great time, friendship/relationship, who knows? **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412777**

SALLY stunning lady looking for dinner dates, partying and generally having a good time with generous man looking for his mojo! No strings, go on call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412599**

DEBS petite attractive auburn haired, good listener, romantic, enjoys socialising, cosy nights in with Mr Right, seeking similar caring N/S single dad. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412387**

JAN slim curvy professional warm, affectionate, looking to fill full time vacancy with similar male who loves cuddles/kisses and bikes for romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412167**

ATTRACTIVE slim brunette, 47, N/S, seeks tall, slim male for a cut above the average relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412725**

Men seeking women

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

SLIM attractive man 51, GSOH, WLTM lady 45-55 for evenings out and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406259**

PAUL 63, seeks attractive younger lady for discreet daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417121**

DAVE genuine guy, 6ft, black hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes sports, gardening, music, seeks female with GSOH and genuine. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388372**

ALAN 49, seeks lady for discreet no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413757**

MALE 67, smoker, solvent, OHAC, seeking feminine, voluptuous woman, 60-65 for days out, weekends away, holidays and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417043**

RICHARD 44, single, happy go lucky, likes pubs, clubs, socialising, seeking female for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416995**

WIDOWER 70's, lonely, educated, well travelled, reliable, tactile, seeks fun, N/S lady for friendship and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416481**

VICTOR, retired, 5ft 8ins, professional, seeks N/S lady for fun, friendship and happy times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 309157**

NICK 52, 6ft, slim, genuine, seeking slim female for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415881**

SINGLE dad, young 39, likes keep fit, walks, seeks slim lady, any age for fun, hopeful relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395747**

39YR old single dad, likes cosy nights in, seeks female for fun times, maybe more. Single mum welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395807**

MARK 5ft 11ins, blond hair, blue eyes, slim-medium build, athletic, likes nights in/out, socialising, meals out, pubs, seeks female with similar interests and GSOH for fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411335**

SLIM attractive man, tired of lonely nights, seeks genuine lady for friendship and evenings out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410261**

DAVE genuine guy, 6ft, black hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes sports, gardening, music, seeks female with GSOH and genuine. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388372**

MALE 63, N/S, GSOH, genuine, caring, likes music, travel, meals out, casual drink, seeks female, 50-70 for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416997**

39YR old single dad, likes cosy nights in, seeks single, slim lady for fun relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396061**

MIKE 47, 6ft, easygoing, kind, considerate, seeks female, 25-45 for friendship and outdoor activities. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396367**

GENT 53, 5ft 11ins, brown eyes, distinguished, seeking attractive lady, 30-45 for discreet fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415809**

ROBERT 6ft 4ins, blue eyes, brown hair, likes football, nights out, socialising, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417053**

BLUE eyed male, black hair, 6ft 4ins, likes football, nights out, farming, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416341**

MALE 49, 6ft, seeks lady for discreet fun times. Must accom. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413819**

MARCUS 46, 5ft 7ins, medium build, blond hair, seeking female for fun and friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416887**

TALL, dark, attractive guy, 49, seeks attractive, younger female for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 316752**

MALE 57, seeking female, any age/looks for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416779**

WIDOWER 70's, lonely, educated, well travelled, reliable, tactile, seeks fun, N/S lady for friendship and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416481**

VICTOR, retired, 5ft 8ins, professional, seeks N/S lady for fun, friendship and happy times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 309157**

MALE 63, N/S, honest, GSOH, car owner, seeks female, 55-70 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416817**

CARING male, 55, N/S, medium build, likes meals out, music, cinema, sports, driving, seeks female, 40-60 for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 239148**

MALE 60, N/S, average looks, black hair, likes meals out, seeks female, 50-70, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 383425**

TALL, dark, slim, attractive guy, 48, seeks attractive female for no strings fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 299904**

ATTRACTIVE male, late 40's, seeks attractive female for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 311713**

TALL, dark, attractive guy 50, seeks attractive, tactile female for fun, excitement and lots of attention. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 314219**

SHROPSHIRE male, 50, tall, dark, attractive, fun loving, seeks attractive female for fun and excitement. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 341387**

TALL attractive Shrewsbury male, 54, seeks attractive female for fun and excitement in the daytime. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411823**

MALE young 62, medium build, likes sports, golf, holidays, food, beer, seeks lady for nights out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416643**

MALE 50, seeking discreet no strings fun with female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416783**

KEV 49, dark hair, blue eyes, average build, seeks female, any age for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384372**

52YR old male, dark hair, blue eyes, average build, seeks female, 40-55 for fun and romance, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391199**

54YR old male, dark hair, blue eyes, average build, likes nights in/out, seeking similar female, any age. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416747**

MALE young 62, medium build, likes sports, golf, holidays, food, beer, seeks lady for nights out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416643**

GLYNN 49, young looking, seeks black female, 21-30 for loving relationship and fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416603**

Men seeking men

BI male, 50, tall, friendly, discreet, seeks bi male, 35-50 for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416335**

MATURE gent 73, bi-curious, occasional CD, seeks similar male, 70-80. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416155**

GRAHAM 54, dark hair, 50's, seeks gay/bi male for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415727**

MATURE male, young looking, many interests, GSOH, seeks similar male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413953**

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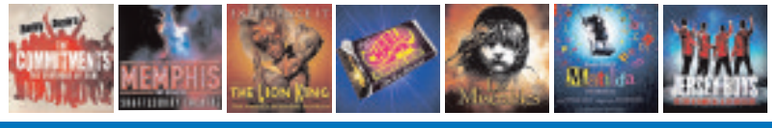

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Bradshaw is Saddlers' saviour

Crewe 1 Walsall 1

TOM Bradshaw has accepted frequent bad luck this season with impeccable grace.

So perhaps his goal at Crewe on Saturday can be put down to some form of realignment in the universe.

The striker's 18th of this campaign will almost certainly end up being the most fortunate of his career.

It was a trick shot worthy of Steve Davis' more famous namesake and left the Alex boss feeling blue, as it cost his side two precious points for which most of the afternoon seemed firmly in their grasp.

With nine minutes to go and the Saddlers desperately short on ideas, hesitation in the home defence brought the ball to Bradshaw. His shot travelled barely a yard before hitting defender Harry Davis, looping up and spinning viciously on the turf to spring toward goal and beat a completely wrong-footed Paul Rachubka.

Bradshaw – who has stayed relentlessly positive despite missing 20 games with niggling hamstring troubles – joked about intending the whole thing in post-match interviews, before admitting his relief at League One not having a dubious goals panel.

After a first half in which Crewe looked every inch a team desperate for the points and the Saddlers one with little to play for, it was the visitors who controlled the opening 15 minutes of the second without managing an attempt on goal.

When Romaine Sawyers, who had the kind of day his critics like to think occurs more often, finally did try his luck the ball cleared the bar by a distance and that remained the visitors' only shot of the period until Bradshaw's stroke of fortune.

After Marcus Haber had become the first player to score past Dean Smith's side in more than six hours, Crewe might have led by more at the break had they shown a bit more composure and belief in attack.

But in the second half Crewe lacked courage, seemingly content to sit on a one-goal lead which then evaporated in a cruel twist of fortune. .

Baggies pay some off debt to fans

Crystal Palace 0 Albion 2

ALBION still owe their fans plenty.

But on Saturday, in the unlikely surroundings of Selhurst Park, the Baggies repaid at least a small piece of their emotional debt.

In another season of footballing torture, Albion's long-suffering supporters finally have a warm, happy memory to take into the summer.

And finally, after weeks of tension and nerves, Tony Pulis can begin preparing for a first full season at the helm with relative confidence that he will still be a Premier League boss.

Maybe it was the sunshine that bathed the 2,600 travelling fans for the majority of the game that made it a happy occasion.

Or maybe it was Craig Gardner's stunning 53rd-minute goal that gave them a buffer to guard against any late worries about another giveaway.

Perhaps it was a first clean sheet in four games and the sight of defenders giving everything for the cause.

Or possibly it was a combination of all three. Whatever the reasons, it felt good to be a Baggies fan for a few hours.

And although Saturday brought them a rare afternoon of footballing fun, Baggies fans will want a whole lot more from their new-look side.

Thrilling

They will want more goals like the one with which Gardner sent them wild at the weekend, because such thrilling moments have been far too scarce.

For now, though, survival is all that matters to give Pulis the resources to work with and the stage to work on for next season.

In a year's time he will be judged by higher standards, but for the time being, baby steps will do just fine.

A baby step was precisely what Albion took on Saturday as they ironed out a few of the creases from their back-to-back defeats to QPR and Crystal Palace while still showing enough chinks in their armour to remind all involved of the work they still have to do.

James Morrison's second-minute opener gave them the perfect start and Gardner's wonderful strike just after half-time put the cap on a significant day.

In between times there was some good, some bad and a little ugly, but the individual errors that had cost them so dearly in their previous two outings had been eradicated to enough of an extent to make the difference.

Wolves side rock trophy holders

Wolverhampton put holder Shrewsbury under severe pressure in the Graham Williamson Trophy on Saturday

WOLVERHAMPTON had Graham Williamson Trophy holders Shrewsbury rocking at London Road on Saturday.

But they came up just short in a very closely-contested second-round tie, going down by just eight runs.

The hosts, who have won the competition for the last five years running, set a solid total of 240-3 thanks in large part to Will Parton's fine unbeaten knock of 97. But Wolverhampton mustered a strong response with Adam Quiney (78) and Ross Aucott (41) leading the charge.

Shrewsbury's bowling attack were in obdurate mood with Steve Barnard (4-25) enjoying particularly fine form.

Wolverhampton's resistance was finally broken with just a couple of balls to spare when Jack Snape was caught for 14 by Liam Brown off Barnard's delivery.

Walsall also narrowly missed out on a place in the semi-finals with a 19-run defeat at home to Walmley. The visitors made what would prove to be a winning score of 247-7 with Shozair Ali's unbeaten 57.

Boothe gives Wood the points in late strike

Long Eaton United 1 Walsall Wood 2

A goal five minutes from time by Shawn Boothe gave Wood the points to move ever closer to third place.

An early right wing move by Wood involving Luke Adams and Ben Evans saw Joey Butlin hit a first time low drive whistling inches wide.

It didn't take United long to threaten, Ben Watkis flicked a header into the left of the box to put Daryl Thomas in on goal, Shawn Boothe came in with a superb saving tackle.

A long ball forward ball found Watkis on the right of the box, his first time fierce drive pushed round his left hand post by keeper Mario Kisiel.

On 10 minutes an intricate move from the back by Wood saw Harry Harris run at the defence from halfway before threading a ball through the home defence right of centre to find Corey Currithers who ran on and calmly slotted the ball beyond the advancing Scott Low.

Within 2 minutes the home side were level, a long ball forward wide left was won by a Wood defender, who under pressure from Thomas mishit his pass back to Kisiel, the striker racing onto the ball and firing across Kisiel into the far corner.

Football

On 21 minutes Butlin charged clear wide right, his ball inside was hit first time by Evans, Low pushing the ball away, but only to Evans again whose shot was blocked, Currithers first to the loose ball, his low drive blocked by David Boafo. A minute later Max Black was fouled just in the D, Butlin's free kick saved low to his left by Low.

Powering

A period of home pressure yielded a right wing corner on 28 minutes, Ross Parker powering a header inches too high.

Currithers wide left, cut inside through three tackles only for Boafo to save United with a superb challenge to come away with the ball. The last goal mouth action came four minutes later. Evans powered into the box from wide right before going down under a challenge from behind, confident penalty appeals ignored. The first chance of the second half saw United substitute Tom Cooper-Richards make space wide right, he pulled the ball back to Thomas to fire first time over.

Three minutes later Butlin pressured a defender into a mistake wide right before cutting inside, Low at full stretch saving his rising drive.

It was Butlin again four minutes later collecting a ball wide right, he cut inside and his shot was deflected wide, the corner easily cleared.

Butlin again on 71 minutes racing into the centre of the box, his rising drive bringing a big hand ball shout that was waved away.

Having weathered the storm back came United whenWatkis put a weak header wide.

Wells later fired a low cross into the Wood box, a scramble developed but the Wood defence held firm.

Back came Wood and two minutes later Currithers powered in from wide left, his rising drive hitting a defender, another loud hand ball appeal ignored.

Justice was done when five minutes later Evans won a right wing corner that was headed behind at the far post by Parker, Harris delivered the ball from the left wing corner, Parker was first to the ball, his header deflecting off the head of Shawn Boothe and into the net.

The win puts Wood fourth. Whatever happens, it's Wood's highest ever placing.

League puts on end of season handicap

THE Wolverhampton City Netball league saw the annual end of season Handicap Tournament take place with 17 teams competing for the title.

Teams were drawn into groups and given handicaps based on their end of season league positions.

Six minutes each way matches were played and topping the groups and through to the semi-finals were Stourbridge Jets, Breezers, Blaze and Zimmers

The semi-finals saw tight matches all round between Stourbridge Jets and Breezers, Jets winning 25, 23. Blaze faced old rivals Zimmers with Blaze winning 24-22.

The final saw Stourbridge Jets face Blaze.

A highly competitive match took place with some exciting end to end netball, the game ending in a draw at full-time.

Two minutes extra time was then played which saw Stourbridge Jets just managing to edge ahead to win 26-24.

Section A Section B Section C semi-finals

Stourbridge Jets (9) Breezers (10) Blaze (7) Stourbridge Jets 25 Breezers 23

Zimmers (8) Libra Lea Navy (6) Sam 4 (6) Blaze 24 v Zimmers 22

Phoenix Hornets (6) Whitmore A (6) Px Scorpions (5)

Chasetown A (4) Whitmore X (6) Whitmore T (2)

Flames (3) Sam 5 (0) Jupiter (0) Final

Whitmore Z (0) Whitmore J (0) Stourbridge Jets 26 Blaze 24 AET

Next Best placings from all three sections = Zimmers 1.6 then Sam 4 1.5

There will be no easing up warns Smith

DEAN SMITH has promised there will be no let up from Walsall over the final three league games as they aim for an unbeaten finish to the season.

The Saddlers went to Swindon on Tuesday night with their League One safety all but assured after Saturday's 1-1 draw at Crewe, but Smith insists there is no danger of his players taking their foot off the gas, against opponents who must win to keep alive their own hopes of automatic promotion.

"We won't be taking it easy," he said. "The players are a bunch who are focused anyway and want to keep doing well.

"We are still 15th in the league and would like to finish higher."

While Smith's team are still not mathematically safe from the drop, it would take an extraordinary set of results to now drag them back into trouble after Tom Bradshaw's fortunate late leveller on Saturday.

The result extended their unbeaten run to five games.

Stears feels aggrieved at his goal gaffe

WOLVES defender Richard Stearman claimed his own goal stunner should have been disallowed against Ipswich.

Stearman's 22nd-minute header from Teddy Bishop's corner flew past Carl Ikeme but the former Ipswich loanee insisted he was pushed in the back by ex-team-mate Tommy Smith for the goal that gave Mick McCarthy's side the lead before Benik Afobe's second-half equaliser.

"I flicked it and I headed it on to him (Tommy Smith), but he went straight through the back of me and on another day I felt I could have had a free kick," said Stearman.

"So I was unlucky in that I won the first header and headed it into him. Those things happen and unfortunately it just crept over Carl Ikeme."

Beacon overcome jitters for the victory

BEACON overcame some mid-order jitters to start their Staffs Clubs Premier Division campaign with a victory.

A disciplined bowling and fielding display saw Beacon dismiss visiting Wednesbury for 150.

Seamers Ollie Green and James Fildes impressed with the ball for the hosts as they both bagged three wickets.

Spinner Matthew Briggs added support by picking up 2-48.

In reply, Beacon appeared to be cruising to victory thanks to a positive start from South African Richard Wissing (33) and youngster Zac Smith (32) that took them past 70 for the loss of one wicket.

But Smith's run out sparked a collapse that saw Beacon lose seven wickets and they were indebted to Jason Swan (27 not out) for guiding them home.

Beacon will be facing an early test of their title credentials at the weekend.

They hit the road to tackle one of the pre-season promotion favourites Cannock and will be looking to avenge last season's heavy defeat in the same fixture.

Dan Green struck an unbeaten century as Beacon's second XI suffered a four-wicket reverse at Wednesbury.

Green hit 101 out of Beacon's 201-7 and despite a four-wicket burst from Michael Hartwell, Wednesbury took the spoils.

Beacon's thirds crashed at home to Walsall.

Nigel Prestridge hit 43 in Beacon's 136, a total the visitors past for the loss of just one wicket.

Casuals let two goal lead slip from grip

Haughmond 3 W-ton Casuals 3

WOLVERHAMPTON Casuals let a two-goal lead slip as they were held 3-3 by Haughmond in the West Midlands Premier thriller.

Liam Hughes struck twice for the visitors before Haughmond pulled one back through Louis Irvine in the first half.

Connor Courtney equalised before Dean Richards gave Haughmond the lead, but Mark Habbershaw levelled with seven minutes remaining.

Hughes with his second goal made it 2-0 in the 40th minute following some excellent work from Lewis Cooper and Dan Westwood.

A minute later the Shropshire side pulled one back, Louis Irvine beating Casuals' keeper Liam Stanton from 12 yards.

Connor Courtney equalised in the 70th minute from close range after Irvine had hit the bar with a well-taken free kick.

Eight minutes later the home side went in front through Dean Richards, however Mark Habbershaw drilled a low shot into the corner.

Steelman get comfortable win in derby

Wednesfield 0 Bilston 4

BILSTON Town picked up another three points on their travels, with the game at Wednesfield being their sixth successive away game.

The second half began as the first had ended, with Bilston dominating the play and Wednesfield defending, but with The Steelmen winning every loose ball and driving forward again, so Wednesfield's defending became more desperate as tiredness crept in.

It was Chris Brown who broke the deadlock after 65 minutes.

That goal lifted Bilston and five minutes later it was Brown again.

With the Wednesfield defence breached Liam Morris scored. With the game all but won, Bilston brought on Brad Coward who fed Morris for his second.

Blues boss philosophical about loss to Hornets

Watford 1 Blues 0

BIRMINGHAM boss Gary Rowett was philosophical after a defeat that saw opponents Watford go top of the Championship.

Craig Cathcart's second-half volley was enough to seal the points after a dogged Blues defence was finally beaten.

Rowett said: "Our aim was to come and stifle them a little bit, like it so often has been. That's the way we've played since we've come in and we don't feel at the minute we're able to be as expansive as we'd like.

"We can be at home, our home form is excellent, but away from home; we did it for 35 minutes against Bournemouth and caused them a lot of problems and perhaps couldn't reach those heights, but it was a more consistent performance.

"We made it difficult for Watford. They're a very good side and they try to play through you and they've got lots of great movement around the edge of the box which means you end up dropping deep and means you can't give space."

The decisive goal at Vicarage Road came in the 56th minute when substitute Ikechi Anya crossed from the left and Cathcart sent a fine volleyed finish into the top corner past goalkeeper Darren Randolph.

Despite looking good in possession going forward, it took the Hornets almost 20 minutes to begin to open up the Birmingham defence.

They were unfortunate not to take the lead, though, when a fine pass from Adlene Guedioura created the opportunity for Troy Deeney.

Delph books Villa's place in the final

Liverpool 1 Aston Villa 2

DESPITE falling behind to Phillipe Coutinho's opener on the half-hour-mark, Villa – urged on by 32,000 travelling fans – rallied in superb fashion to level through Christian Benteke before Fabian Delph grabbed the winner in the second half.

Both goals were memorable, superb in their execution and, with a little more composure, there might have had more on a day when the claret and blues were deserved winners.

At the forefront of it all was Grealish, the teenager who approached the big stage with no fear.

He had a hand in both goals, rolling a pass into the feet of Fabian Delph to cross for Benteke for the first. An even more delightful ball to the captain then created the second.

Through it all supporters roared, no doubt wondering how a team which struggled so badly for goals through the first half of the campaign could play with such freedom.

Manager Tim Sherwood must take much of the credit for the incredible transformation. The Essex-born boss has his critics, no question. But in two months he has turned a team close to becoming a national laughing stock into one supporters can be proud of again.

Villa have their belief back and the club, with this shock result, feels instantly reinvigorated.

There is still work to do, of course, in order to preserve Premier League status. But few who witnessed this display will doubt Villa's ability to generate the one win required between now and the end of the campaign.

Then, of course, there is the prospect of Arsenal in the final, back at Wembley on May 30.

As Sherwood was at pains to point out in the aftermath of the victory, nothing is won yet.

Much like Sunday, they will be firm underdogs but you sense that is exactly as Sherwood would want it.

After all, few gave his team much chance of winning yet Liverpool seemed at a loss with how to cope with them.

Wolves' late surge sees off Lakeside

WOLVERHAMPTON launched a spectacular late surge to see off Lakeside with an excellent 52-38 win at Monmore Green.

Another hugely encouraging all-around team display saw Peter Adams' side make it two wins out of two on home soil and add three more points to their Elite League tally.

Nothing could separate the two sides over the first half of the meeting – but Wolves dug deep to come on strong in the closing stages and emerge with a hard-fought triumph.

Influential reserve Lewis Blackbird brilliantly fended off Kim Nilsson to strike an important 5-1 alongside Ricky Wells in heat five to give Wolves a slender lead before the same duo combined in heat nine to give their side daylight for the first time.

A tremendous win for new-boy Tobiasz Musielak against Grand Prix star Jason Doyle in heat 10 lead to another heat advantage to complete a three-race spell mid meeting which saw the hosts build up an eight point advantage.

Having seized control, composed race wins in the final four races ensured Wolves closed out a fine victory.

Tremendous

Californian favourite Wells continued his tremendous start to the season, suffering just one defeat as he recovered from a slow start to force his way into second place in heat one. He ended his evening in fine style, slicing between Lakeside duo Doyle and Richard Lawson to join Freddie Lindgren at the front to wrap up victory with a 5-1.

Skipper Peter Karlsson again led by example with a magnificent showing as Wolves' strength in depth once again proved their trump card.

Reserve Blackbird bolstered the lower order, improving as the night progressed to notch 11+1 and help cover a nightmare evening for young partner Josh Bates.

No.1 Lindgren endured an up and down evening as he continues to find his feet following his return to British speedway, although he was involved in arguably the two most exciting races of the evening.

He prevailed in a spectacular battle with Mikkel Bech to take the chequered flag in heat seven – although Bech gained revenge to relegate the Swedish ace to the back in an all-action heat 11.

Despite a tough evening in the No.5 spot, Jacob Thorssell claimed a vital race win in heat three to ensure Wolves withstood an early Hammers' onslaught. Polish hotshot Musielak once again demonstrated plenty of speed as he continues to get to grips with his new Monmore Green home circuit. He was in the thick of the action throughout, ending with back to back wins as he fought hard for his seven points.

Whilst Wolves were again posed with a stern test against a solid Lakeside team, they once again displayed their character.

Wolverhampton: Ricky Wells 12+2, Lewis Blackbird 11+1, Peter Karlsson9, Fredrik Lindgren 9, Tobiasz Musielak 7, Jacob Thorssell 4, Josh Bates 0

Lakeside: Richard Lawson 7+1, Jason Doyle 7+1, Kim Nilsson 6, Mikkel Bech 6, Adam Ellis 6+2, Edward Kennett 3+2, James Wright 3.

Freddie Lindgren leads Mikkel Bech during the meeting. *Picture John Hipkiss*

Wolves will end on a high, says McDonald

KEVIN McDonald insists Wolves will end the season on a high – no matter how their play-off push ends up.

Wolves must beat Wigan on Saturday and Ipswich slip up against Nottingham Forest to realistically have a chance of making the play-offs after Saturday's 1-1 draw against the Tractor Boys.

And ever-present midfielder McDonald has vowed Wolves will bow out with all guns blazing at Wigan and at home against Millwall on the final day.

"We want to win these last two games to go into next season to finish on a high for next season," said the play making Scot. "Hopefully it will take us into the play-offs but if not, then we'll have good momentum going into next season.

"We'll give it everything – we'll go to Wigan looking for three points and see what it brings it.

"We need six points, and we'll be giving it everything we possibly can to get in there.

"We've been positive all season; we've been through a couple of sticky patches like the one in these last three games where we've only picked up one point.

"We've just got to stick together – we've got two more games left and it's going to be a massive push for everyone involved. Hopefully we can sneak in there.

"We need to rely on other teams, which is against us, but all we can do is win our games.

"If things don't go our way we have to take all the positives from what has been a good first season back in the Championship."

McDonald believes Wolves were by far the better side against Ipswich.

FA final spot 'will boost' the Villa side

TIM Sherwood believes the carrot of an FA Cup final will prove motivation rather than a distraction for Villa's players after Saturday's stunning win over Liverpool at Wembley.

The claret and blues reached only their second final in 58 years after a scintillating performance, with goals from Christian Benteke and Fabian Delph earning them a 2-1 victory.

And Sherwood has promised the prospect of a May 30 date with Arsenal will drive his squad on as they look to preserve their Premier League status in the meantime. "The players will only get here if they play well in the games remaining," said Sherwood, who confirmed defender Nathan Baker is out for the season after suffering a recurrence of his knee injury.

Hughes gets into last 16 before losing

Tipton's Jamie Hughes reached the last 16 of the BDO's German Open at the weekend before bowing out to a former world champion, writes Craig Birch.

'Yozza' lost 5-2 to Scott Waites at the Sporthalle Harpener Heide in Bochum on Saturday, after hammering Stephan Gerritsen 4-1 to set up the meeting.

Waites went out 6-1 to eventual title winner Jeffrey De Graaf, who beat Martin Adams 8-7 to take the trophy, in the quarter-finals.

Hughes was back in singles action after a starring role for the England team, as they claimed the British International championship the previous weekend.

The 29-year-old won both of his games, the latter a 4-1 clincher against Wales' Steve Alker that saw his country claim the spoils.

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An Express & Star supplement

Express & Star

Albion pay some of debt to fans
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Late surge suits Wolves riders
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Wolves will battle it out at Wigan

DISAPPOINTED Kenny Jackett has vowed Wolves will come out fighting at Wigan this weekend after their play-off hopes were left hanging by a thread.

Saturday's 1-1 draw against Ipswich – as well as Derby and Brentford also taking a point from their games against Huddersfield and Bolton respectively – left things as they were, with Wolves still eighth and three points off a top-six spot with two games left.

Richard Stearman's 22nd-minute own goal gave Ipswich the lead but Benik Afobe rescued a point.

Despite a dominant second-half display from Jackett's side, they could not break through a fierce resistance led by Molineux old boy Christophe Berra.

Head coach Jackett insists his players will not throw in the towel as they prepare to go to Wigan – who need to win and hope Rotherham lose to have a chance of staying up – on Saturday.

"We've got six points to play for and one way or another we'll come out fighting to put on a really good performance next week at Wigan," said the head coach.

"It's out of our hands and we'll need to win our games and other teams have to lose. We'll assess it and make sure we go again this weekend. And then if the door is still open, make sure we're there and ready – there's no way we're going to drop off. There have been a lot of positives on Saturday and we've been right in the hunt."

Jackett insists keeping the players focused on their goal will not be a problem despite them having to rely on Ipswich losing at home to Nottingham Forest to realistically keep their play-off hopes alive. "It won't be difficult to keep the players motivated," said the boss.

It's not over yet, we have to do our jobs, says Jackett

KENNY JACKETT has warned Wolves to forget about hitting the beaches as he hinted some players could be playing for their futures.

Wolves' play-off destiny is now out of their hands as they need to win this weekend at Wigan and hope Ipswich and Brentford lose against Nottingham Forest at home and Reading away respectively to have a chance of landing a play-off spot.

And the head coach wants his side to do all they can in their last two games to keep their top-six dream alive.

"I've said to the players I don't want anyone going up to Wigan thinking it's all over," said Jackett.

"We have to make sure we do our jobs now and I don't want anyone getting on that coach on Friday that doesn't want to play and won't have enthusiasm to try to improve.

"I don't want anyone being half-hearted about his performance. "

Jackett also seemed to suggest some players could be playing for their futures. "I want a big performance at Wigan, whether that's for this season or not," he said.

Baggies will improve says Fletcher

Football

CAPTAIN Darren Fletcher is confident Albion will improve next season – after claiming boss Tony Pulis will not settle for mediocrity.

Saturday's 2-0 win at Pulis' former club Crystal Palace has put the Baggies within touching distance of safety in the Premier League and thoughts are beginning to turn toward next year.

Fletcher, who joined the club in February from Manchester United, insists head coach Pulis will not settle for another relegation battle in what will be the first full campaign at the club for both men.

"The manager doesn't settle for mediocrity, he always wants to improve and move forward and that's very much the mindset everyone should have," he said.

"That is his mindset. Who wants to fight a relegation battle every year?

"You should try to beat your last total, go and win the next game and always look forward.

"That's what I like. He's got that attitude and desire and all the players will respond to that and if they don't I'm sure he'll do something about it."

Fletcher believes Albion, who have battled against the drop for the past two seasons, could not have a better man at the helm than the former Stoke and Palace boss, who replaced Alan Irvine on New Year's Day.

The Baggies have improved under Pulis' guidance, taking 19 points from 14 league matches.

He added: "I'm not going to tell Tony Pulis how to do his job.

"I trust the manager completely and he's been fantastic with me and everyone. He wants to progress and there's no better manager to do it."

Albion will look to end a run of two home defeats when they host Liverpool on Saturday.

HOPES DENTED FOR PLAY-OFFS

Wolves 1 Ipswich 1

WITH two games left, Kenny Jackett's side are still out of the play-off zone, just like they have been for the majority of the time since they last played Ipswich in November.

And when games go like they did on Saturday, you are left with the feeling that it's not to be this time around that Wolves will reach the end-of-season showpiece.

Three successive wins gave fans hope that they could do it, but the defensive cracks that undermined and threatened victory against Leeds turned into flatter performances and ultimately defeats against Birmingham and Middlesbrough.

And those supporters who dared to believe were left cursing.

The Ipswich match was one of those occasions where you felt for Wolves.

On the balance of play and chances, they should have won.

But in the Championship, things are rarely clear-cut and they were confronted by a typically fiercely determined outfit fashioned by the returning Mick McCarthy that reminded us of his Wolves teams in the Premier League.

Impenetrable

Forced to defend for long periods of the second half, the thick blue line of the Tractor Boys defence seemed impenetrable.

And no-one patrolled it better than Christophe Berra.

Often booed on his first return to his former club, the Scot produced a performance as determined and reliable as he ever did in his 154 appearances in gold and black.

McCarthy said afterwards the former Wolves stopper had a point to prove, and if so, he certainly achieved his aim on a day when he was the most accomplished central defender on view.

No one tried harder to break through than the recalled Nouha Dicko.

In a masterclass of defending from the front, it seemed Dicko closed down, ran the channels and generally ran about like a man possessed trying to rattle and hassle the Ipswich backline into a mistake. But ultimately, all he had to show for his admirable efforts were a man-of-the-match rating by many and several blocked shots, mostly by Berra.

As Kevin McDonald – whose wayward volley Dicko was a whisker away from heading in at the death – said afterwards, it was one of those days.

It was a game where nothing but the result mattered for Wolves.

But in the end, the 1-1 draw that transpired was a reflection on a scrappy affair that was typified by the goal that put the visitors ahead against the run of play.

Richard Stearman never scored in his 15 appearances on loan for Ipswich, but the records will show he netted for them some two years later when he got his head to Teddy Bishop's corner to unwittingly divert the ball past Carl Ikeme after 22 minutes.

Subsequent chances were thin on the ground until Dave Edwards, who performed admirably and tirelessly in the holding role as Jack Price stood down, saw his volley tipped on to the post by keeper Bartosz Bialkowski five minutes before the break.

ButBenik Afobe slid the ball home to level within five minutes of action resuming.

Battling for the ball are Nouha Dicko of Wolves and Christopher Berra of Ipswich

Rabone puts cap on win for Khalsa

Sporting Khalsa 3 Bridgnorth 1

A Marvin Nisbett brace helped champions Sporting Khalsa extend their lead over second-placed Bridgnorth to 18 points with three games in hand.

Nisbett opened the scoring on 23 minutes, shooting through a crowded penalty area from the right-hand side of the box into the opposite corner.

Five minutes later, he doubled the lead, reacting quickly as the ball bounced loose from a Tim Jackson corner.

The visitors fired a warning shot that they were still in the game on 36 minutes, Shaun Williams forced into defensive action to deny Adam Bealey before Chris Crook kept his side in the game just before the break, producing an acrobatic save to deny Craig Bannister.

On 57 minutes Bannister again tried his luck, shooting over after great work by Williams down the flank before, at the other end, hesitancy in the Khalsa defensive ranks required the decisive intervention of Joe Rogers to deny the powerhouse Anwar Olugbon and Andy Hartlebury almost scored.

Williams shot over after carving out a good opening for himself on 62 minutes and six minutes later Franco – the only outfield regular not to score for Khalsa this season – almost grabbed a goal from a Jackson corner.

Bridgnorth got themselves back into the game on 76 minutes as a defensive horror show by Jackson let in Olugbon to slide in a cross for Dan Taylor to score what was only the fifth league goal conceded by Khalsa at home.

This signaled an action-packed finale with neither side prepared to stand down.

With seconds left, Chris Rabone finished in style to give Khalsa the win.

The fours is strong for Lockmen clash

Willenhall 4 Cradley Town 4

THIS vital relegation six-pointer turned out to be a real ding-dong battle.

The Lockmen made the worst possible start when a simple ball over the top of the defence found Mark Bellingham to score.

Then it was 2-0 when another ball into the box found David Almond. Matt Dorgan pulled a goal back on 36 minutes .

Then former Lockman Chris Bladen fired home.

After the break and The Reds levelled again, as Dorgan curled a shot from 25 yards right into the goal. On 54 minutes Cradley took the lead for a third time through Bladen. The Lockmen levelled again through a Matt Dove penalty.

★★★

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